Lutheran World Service (India)

ANNUAL REPORT 1979

Preparing the Ground . . .

ECONOMIC & HEALTH

LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE

GO TO THE PEOPLE.
LIVE AMONG THEM.
LEARN FROM THEM.
LOVE THEM.
START WITH WHAT THEY KNOW.
BUILD ON WHAT THEY HAVE.
BUT, OF THE BEST LEADERS.
WHEN THE TASK IS ——
ACCOMPLISHED,
THE PEOPLE ALL
REJOICE.

STAFF : L.W.S.

Art by
PETER PAUL S. SEN. (V.E.W.)
(RANCHI PROJECT)

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PREM

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Annual Report 1979

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DATE	NAME	ADDRESS
7/11/74 CALCUTTA	The Office of Lutheran World Service India was officially opened by the Director, Lutheran World Federation, Department of World Service Dr. Bonne Muetzelfeldt, accompanied by Mrs Muetzelfeldt on THURSDAY NOV 7th 1974 in the presence of:-	
7/11/74	Rev. Dr. Chellan Lutheran World Service India Secretary for Programme Administration	
7/11/74	Rev. Hedlen Emergency officer Lutheran World Service India.	
7/11/74	G.W. Sitton	
27/11/1974	I the best wishes for the new LWF service in West Bengal. I shall do my best to bring much money for your projects.	
	Jørgen Heinrich Dalgaard	

INTRODUCTION

On 7th November this year the Lutheran World Service completed five years of service in India. LWS initially rented two small rooms at the New Kenilworth Hotel to serve as an office. Among those present at the opening ceremony on 7th November, 1974 were Dr. Bruno Muetzelfeldt, Director, Lutheran World Federation/World Service, Geneva accompanied by his wife and the LWF/WS, Secretary for Programme Administration, Mr. Brian Neldner. Also present were Mr. Henriksen from Danchurchaid, Denmark and LWS staff.

At that time, West Bengal State was characteristically, in the grip of a grave flood emergency in the northern areas and drought in the south western part.

The LWF/WS had for about a decade financed the Cooch Behar Refugee Service in North Bengal with refugee resettlement and community development programmes. A few of these programmes were continued as a part of the programme the LWS initiated in early 1975. The LWS North Bengal programme has since developed into a comprehensive programme with the main emphasis on sericulture, medicinal plants and re-settlement. Another field programme was taken up in Orgram in the District of Burdwan in 1975 and has since been extended into the Jangal Mahal area and neighbouring area of Birbhum. The 1975 flood and drought emergency programmes were the forerunners of the comprehensive development programmes taken up in Jangipur Sub-Division of Murshidabad and Nadia Districts and in the Ajodhya Hills area in the District of Purulia, respectively, the latter now having been extended to the neighbouring areas of Balarampur and Bandwan. In 1976 the first Church related programme was initiated in the District of Ranchi, Bihar State, in cooperation with the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church and another Church related programme was initiated in Santhal Parganas in January 1978 in cooperation with the Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church. Being centred in Calcutta it was only natural for the Lutheran World Service to extend its services to the poorest people of this great city, especially the pavement dwellers and a programme was taken up in a small way in 1976. LWS centres have now been established in areas where large concentrations of pavement dwellers are to be found. As a follow up to this programme the LWS is taking up the resettlement of pavement and embankment dwellers both on the outskirts of Calcutta in Salt Lake and more recently in the Sundarban area, of 24-Parganas.

Our experience of working among the poorest of the poor, whether rural or urban, has been gratifying in the sense that we have been witness to the changing tempo of development in isolated and poverty-stricken areas, where people are preparing the ground and laying the foundations for growth, progress and a self-sustaining economy.

As we assist in preparing the ground with and through the people, we serve, we thank our Donors for their generous support and the Government at the National, State and District level for their excellent cooperation and assistance at all times.

OLAV HODNE

THE WAY
THEY WERE . . .

Taking a dusty path leading up into Ajodhya Hills in the early hours of morning, Ranjit Saha, a social worker of the LWS, accompanied by Jacob Hembrom, a tribal, set out on a mission to Simulbara village to meet the villagers and request them to join in a Food-for-Work Project, designed to help them earn an income while building up an irrigation project, which could benefit them. A tiring yet cool walk through the forest brought them to a cluster of mud dwellings. The village, however, wore a deserted look. The people were afraid to come forward to meet the strangers. Their past experience with the outside world had left them embittered and distrustful. For centuries they had been cheated and exploited. They now lurked in suspicion of the intent of any visitor from the plains.

Ranjit and Jacob sought out a huddled group of people and spoke to them of their purpose in coming to the Hills. The people were quiet and refused to communicate. Ranjit and Jacob did not give up. They returned time and again. Their persistant efforts helped in awakening some interest among the people. Slowly they came forward, represented by an old man, their village leader. A rapport was established. They spoke of their problems and grievances and were willing to listen and consider what could be done to change their situation.

Ranjit soon discovered that the tribals are a simple and artistically sensitive people. He had to find simple solutions to their simple problems. Having knowledge and practical experience in rural housing construction he had to convince the people of the need for more durable houses which they could construct on their own. The tribals normally build fairly good earthen houses of mud walls and thatched roofs which they take pleasure in decorating with symbolic designs and motives common to their village life. However, these houses lacked windows or any form of ventilation. The suggestion advanced to make windows for healthier living was instantaneously rejected by them. Their reason—it would enable the evil spirit to enter and reside. Immersed in such folklore and superstitious beliefs, Ranjit recommended the only sensible solution which to their minds seemed quite reasonable—the second window through which the evil spirit could go out ! And thus at the end of 1975 began the real dialogue for collaboration with the people of Ajodhya Hills.

Ajodhya Hills, lying to the north-west of Calcutta is situated in the south east of Purulia District of West Bengal State about 40 kms. away from the main town. These low-lying hills covered with forests and dotted with tribal villages are an extension of the Dalmia Range in Bihar, the eastern remnant of the Chotanagpur Plateau. The average height of the hills is 540 metres descending gradually to the north-east and south-west. The range forms the watershed of Subarnarekha, Kasai and Kumari Rivers.

Although lying in a sub-tropical zone, the climate is fairly pleasant with dry, hot summers and short, cool winters. The monsoons set in during June and last upto September, the hills

Ajodhya Hills

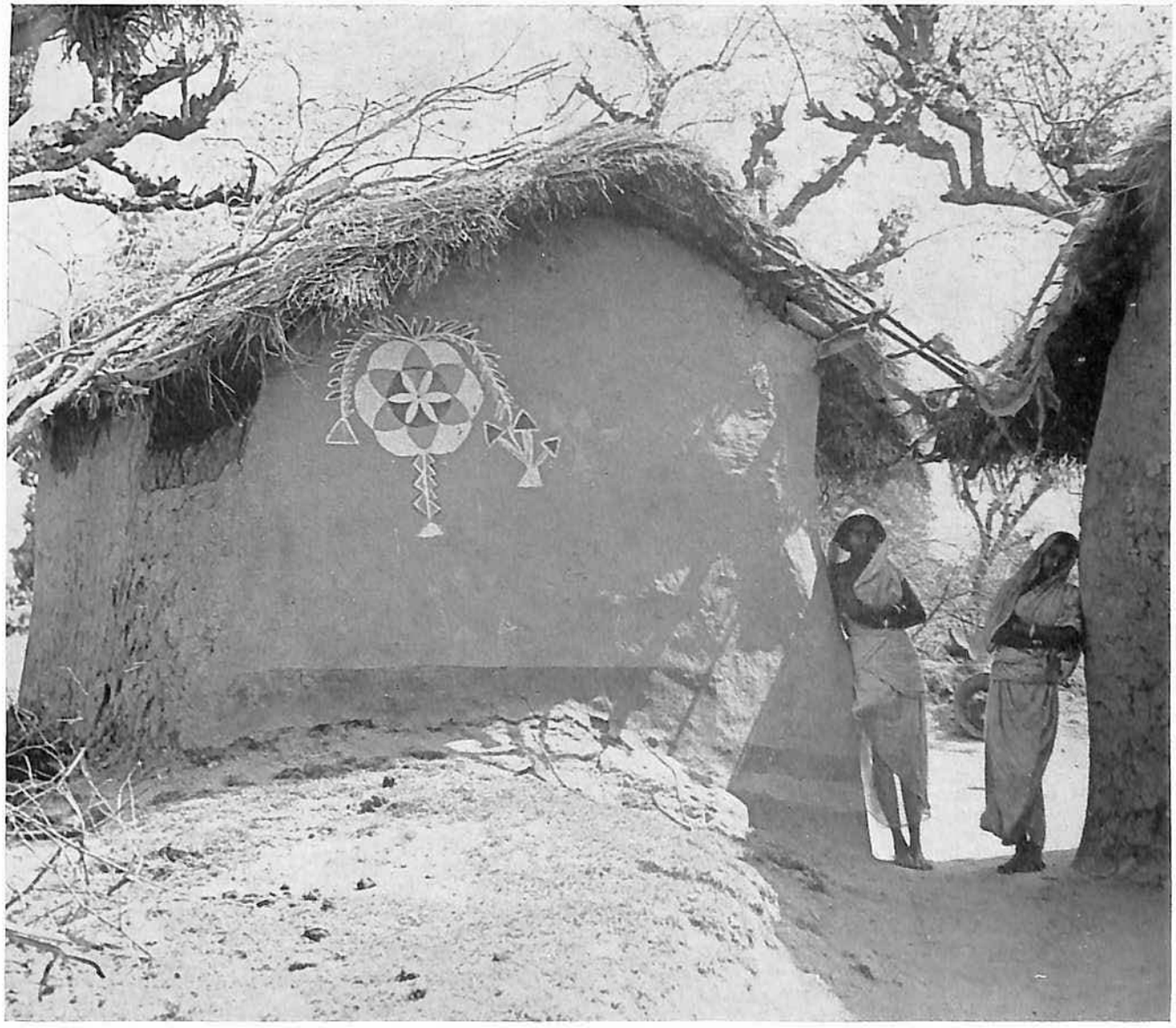
Purulia

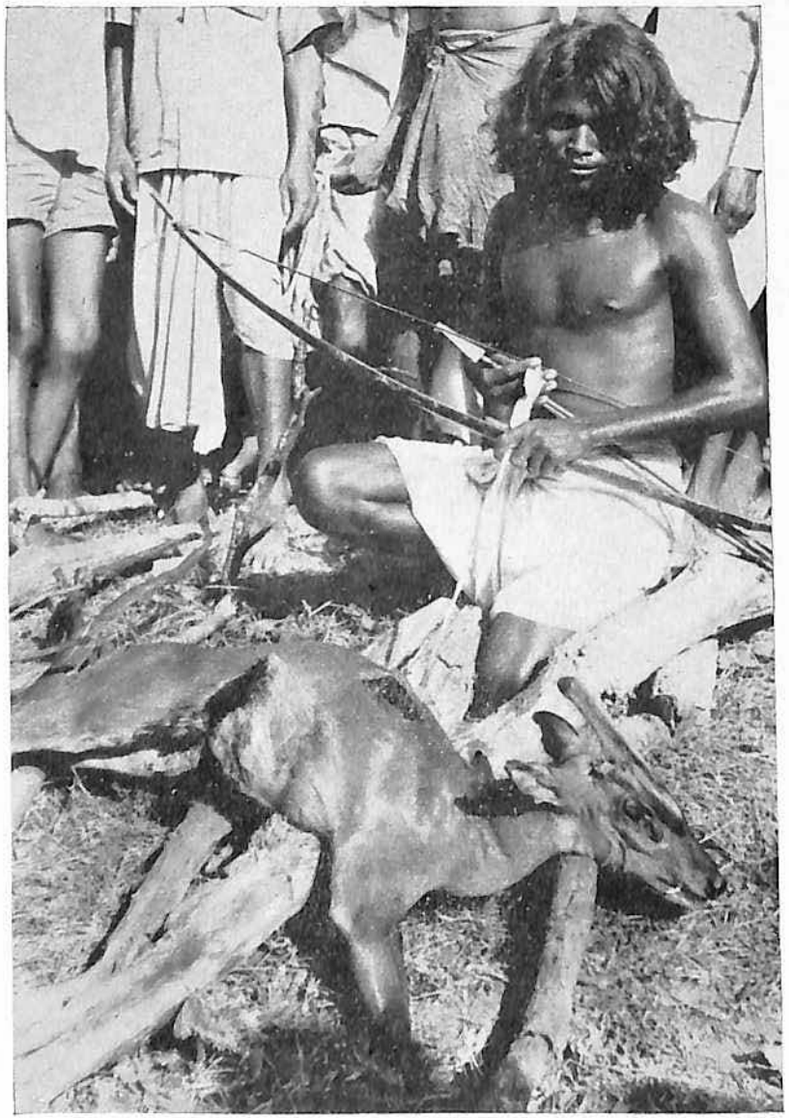
averaging a rainfall of 1,500 mm. A few post-monsoon thundershowers are not infrequent.

The hill population of approximately 10,000 are mostly Santhals with scatterings of other tribes.

An age-old social structure handed down from generation to generation still exists in the form of "Village Councils". Functionally, it is composed of a village head, or "Majhi", a priest, or "Naike", a Secretary or "Godet" and an Assistant to the Secretary, a "Jog Majhi". The tribal community shares in the festivities that centre round the changing seasons of planting and harvesting. The hills are then alive with the sound of drum beats, song and dance. The women bedeck themselves with scented flowers and the men paint their bodies and mask their faces while they all dance with wild abandon. The "Annual Hunt" is also of traditional heritage calling for great festivity.

The socio-economic situation of the hill people in the early seventies was desperate. Although they possessed agricultural land, the agricultural practices of the people were primitive and agriculture was secondary to the people. They earned their living primarily by selling forest wood and mahua flowers, used for liquor processing. The majority had mortgaged their land to the rich farmers living on the plains for as little as Rs. 5/- to Rs. 10/- per year. Some of them did not have the economic support to cultivate their own land and others migrated to other areas in search of employment. Many tribals were moreover exploited by money-lenders. The people had practically no access to learning and economic advancement and were generally illiterate.



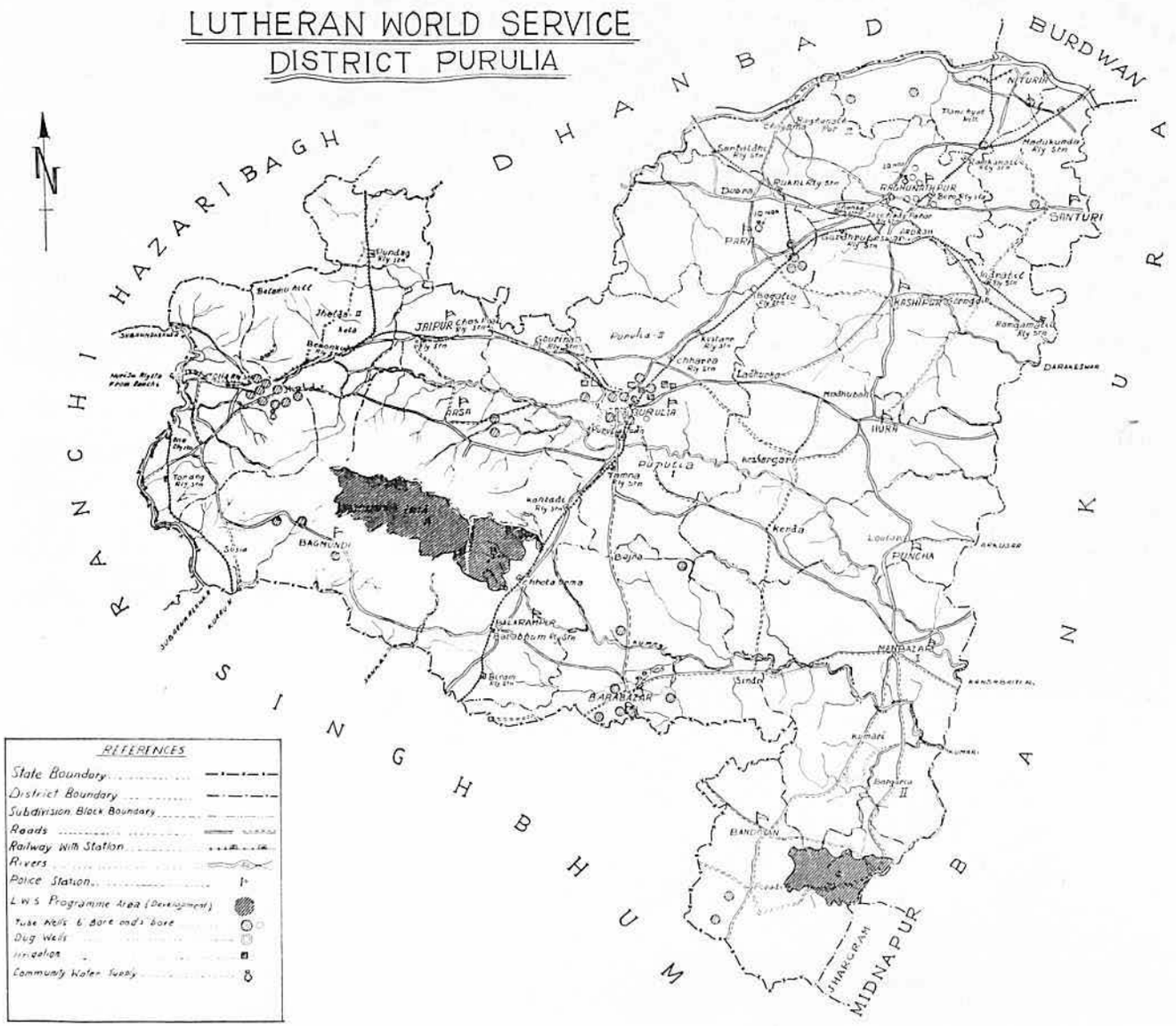


Despite the fairly good climate, the people remained unhealthy and impoverished. Living in unhygienic conditions and with poor nutrition, the mortality rate was high. Malaria and other diseases were rampant and claimed many victims.

Another factor isolating the tribals was poor communications. The only linkage between villages was the forest pathways, inaccessible to vehicles. People had to walk almost 14 kilometres to the nearest township on the plains. There was till 1976 one traversable road for vehicles between Baghmundi and Ajodhya Hills.

THE WAY
THEY ARE . . .

Since 1975, the people of Ajodhya Hills have been actively engaged in transforming their socio-economic condition. More than anything else, they seem to have understood that they enjoy a place in the mainstream of society entitling them to equal rights, as citizens of India. With great zeal, they have worked towards utilising the opportunities available for development and quite successfully have organised themselves into the "Ajodhya Pahar Adibasi Unnayan Sangha" (Ajodhya Hills Tribal Development Society)—a people's organisation which runs with the help of a common fund of voluntary contributions. Through this social organisation, the people have assumed the responsibility of looking after the infrastructures that they have built over the past four years. They have also opened Consumer Stores at various places, which they operate themselves and which provide the daily necessities of the local and nearby villages. An effort has been made to free themselves from the clutches of middlemen. The Association has organised the purchase of oilseeds and mustard at reasonable prices from the villagers, in exchange of other essential commodities. By this method, the people get a good return for the wheat and those in need of grain, are able to procure it at a cheaper rate. For the first time in the history of Ajodhya Hills, the people have attempted to put up representatives for public posts in Bodies like the Anchal Panchayat, Panchayat Samity, etc. In the 1978 elections, all the positions in the Hill Panchayat have been secured by tribals.

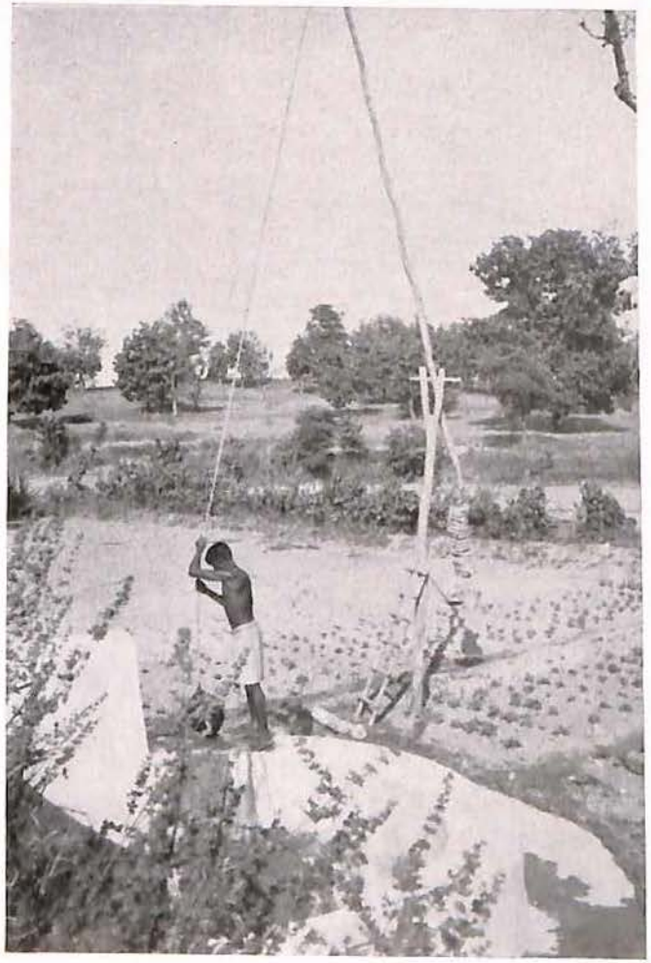


AGRICULTURE

Acreage brought under cultivation		People Assisted
Previous Years	2,440	7,320
1979	254	627

Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
70%	30%



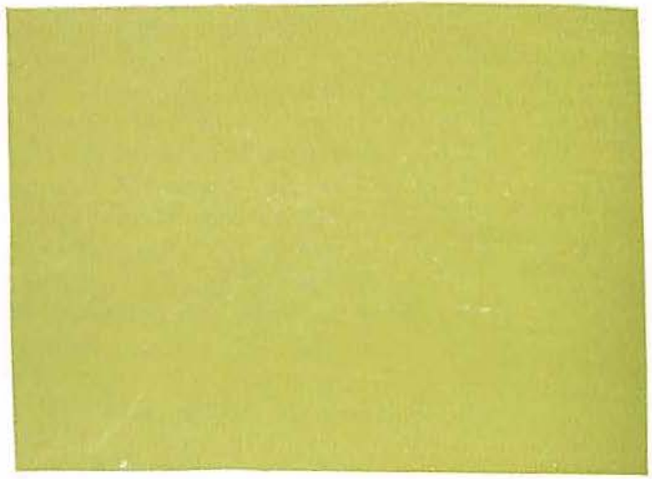
With the help of increased irrigation sources the tribals have brought new areas under cultivation, using multiple cropping and improved seed varieties of higher yield. Prior to this 'aman' (monsoon) paddy was singly cultivated under rainfed conditions with maize and minor millets on relatively higher land.

Tapping of underground water sources have, to a great extent, freed the farmers from dependance solely on the monsoons for cultivation. They have chosen wheat and a second crop of "Boro" paddy (winter crop) cultivation in the newly irrigated areas, during winter. Gram (pulse) cultivation is taken up on 70 acres of unirrigated land by 215 farmers, thereby ensuring better land utilisation. Agriculture has been greatly extended. Farmers have offered their land to serve as demonstration plots and this has generated a great enthusiasm for experimentation of high yielding seed varieties which have increased production considerably as tabled below :—

Kind of Crop	Yield per acre (Traditional Variety)	Yield per acre (H.Y.V.)	Remarks
Aman Paddy	10 qtls.	15 qtls.	If the package of practices are followed more yields are expected.
Mustard	1 ,,	2 ,,	
Maize	3 ,,	10 ,,	
Black Gram against Kurthi Kolai	1 ,,	3 ,,	
Potato	10 ,,	30 ,,	

As a result of this, out of 1,800 acres under Aman paddy, so far 300 acres have been replaced with high yielding varieties. About 230 families have, moreover, preserved seeds for utilisation covering about 110 acres during the monsoon of 1979 in 8 subcentres of the LWS project area covering 78 villages.

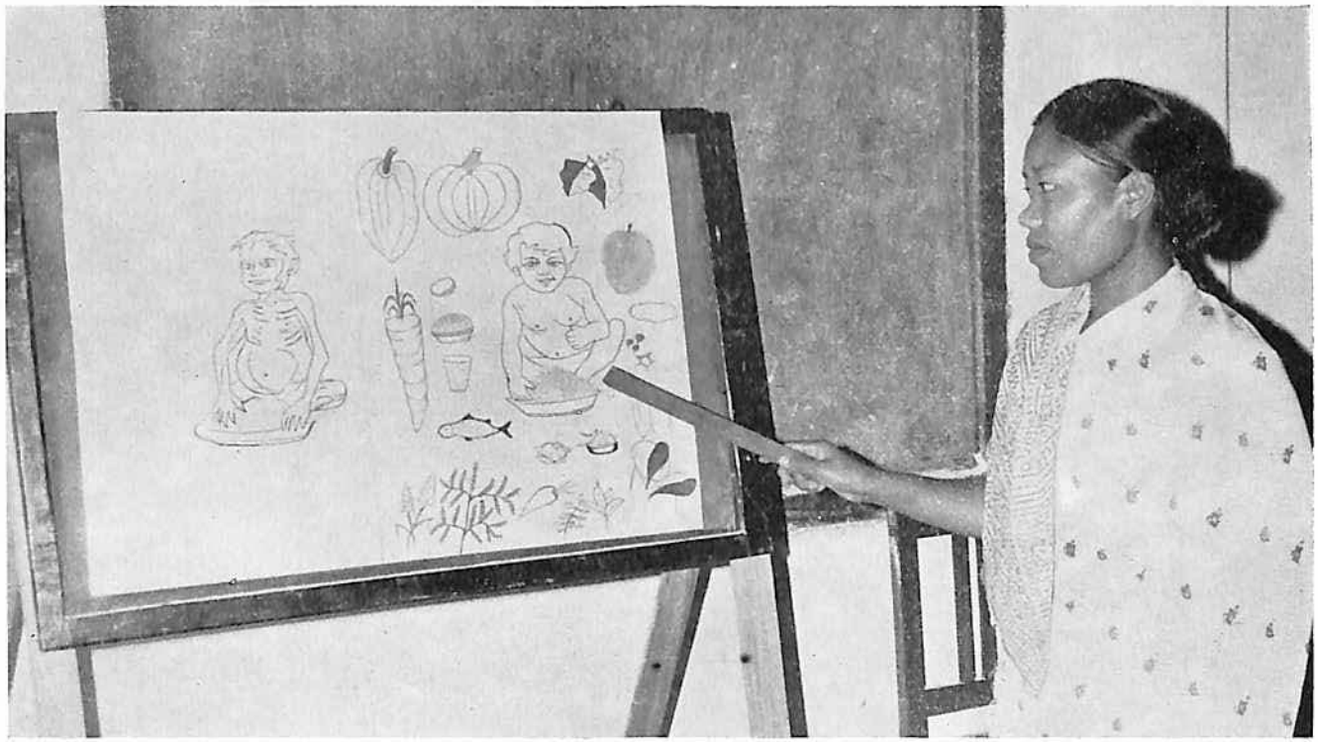
Many farmers have taken to vegetable cultivation and 80 farmers have utilised vegetable seedlings from the Ajodhya Hills Agri-Centre. Puthal Murmu of Puniasasas has earned Rs. 1,000/- through the sale of 8 quintals of vegetables in 1979. Kalipada Hembram has offered his land for construction of a well which is used both for drinking water and irrigation purposes. He and his wife have for the first time cultivated potato, onion, spinach, cauliflower and wheat. Encouraged by the prospect, other families have done likewise and the fields are yielding a rich harvest around the well. A few more families are digging wells and planting vegetables.



Apart from jore-bundhs (cross-dams) tanks and spring water about 73 wells have been dug so far (seventeen during 1979) and two tubewells have been sunk to irrigate about 20 acres. The people have shown remarkable initiative in attempting to increase the agriculture production yield and better their own consumption needs and marketing potentialities. Young people are availing of training given in improved agriculture technology at the project site or at recognised Institutions and are developing new skills and methods of farming.

An orientation course which was held in Ajodhya Hills for Community Health Workers, consisted of simple lectures, an exhibition of posters depicting rudimentary ideas in community health for the benefit of the villagers, a cooking demonstration to emphasize how a balanced diet could be made out of locally available material, and finally a puppet show on health subjects. The course met with a very enthusiastic response from the audience and led to lively discussions on antenatal care, immunisation, etc. Mention must be made of the Magic Lantern Project. This developed a highly successful method of creating community involvement in problems of health. After discussing several problems with the members of the Community, a number of them, drew slides and other illustrations depicting the newly grasped ideas. These were then shown to other audiences as slides. As expected, it generated a lot of interest especially as they were put across in a language and symbolism in which the people were entirely at home.

The interest shown by the people evidenced the awakening awareness on health matters. People no longer mud-plaster their houses after a residual spray but cooperate with spray teams to fight malaria. Mothers come readily for immunisation, antenatal check-ups and to receive iron tablets, Vitamin A for prevention of night blindness, etc.



LIVESTOCK

	Goats	Fowls	Pigs	Buffaloes
Previous Years	33	—	104	68
1979	114	186	8	18

Total Families Assisted 550 (Approx.)

Material Participation (1979)

LWS	Government	Target Group
50%	45%	5% to 20%

FISHERY

	Fingerlings	No. of Ponds	Covered by
Previous Years	23,500	24	LWS
1979	12,500	2	LWS 50% Govt. 50%

Animal husbandry is being taken up as a subsidiary occupation. So also is pisciculture, lac cultivation and weaving. Many of the farmers and their children have sought training in these fields. They have attended practical demonstrations in scientific cultivation of lac and pruning of host trees. 11 local boys have had training in weaving producing useful items such as saries, napkins, lungis, etc.. which are sold through the Consumer Stores. While people understand that rearing of livestock, piggery and poultry could be beneficial, they have indicated a preferance to rear goats. Many farmers have contributed Rs. 40/- for purchasing goats and 17 piglets have been purchased by them for Rs. 640/-. The construction of a Veterinary Dispensary was seen as a necessity to rear the improved cross-breed variety of cattle and milch cattle to promote dairy farming. The Association is organising primary producers of milk so that their returns are remunerative and milk can be collected and distributed centrally.

The people have slowly evinced more interest in the adult literacy, classes held at night in 22 adult literacy centres run by the local people, three of which are for women.

Totally illiterate, these people are now able to read and write. They have also learnt the value of nutrition and social work. Many too volunteer their services for the development of the community. 14 primary schools sanctioned by the State Government were neglected, as the non-tribals who were employed as teachers found the area uninhabitable and isolated, thus reducing the schools to "Paper Schools". Of these 14 Schools, 2 are now staffed with local tribal teachers and the response in attendance shows a remarkable improvement.

The tempo set suggests that the tribals of Ajodhya Hills are poised for gradual growth and capable of deciding the course of their future progress and development.

HOUSING

Houses Constructed		People Assisted
Previous Years	1,527	8,399
1979	500	2,750

Participation (1979)

LWS	Government	Target Group
40% to 50%	30%	20% to 30%

TRAINING OF LOCAL YOUTH

People trained in :–

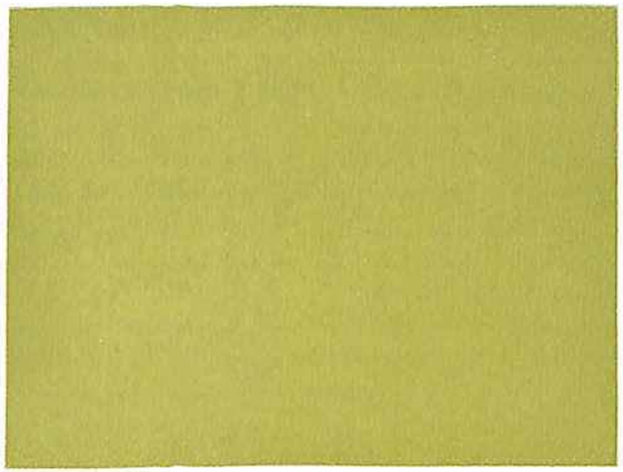
	Agri-culture	Seri-culture	Api-culture	Animal Hus-bandry	Weav-ing
Previous Years	14	10	20	9	21
1979	5	—	8	8	4

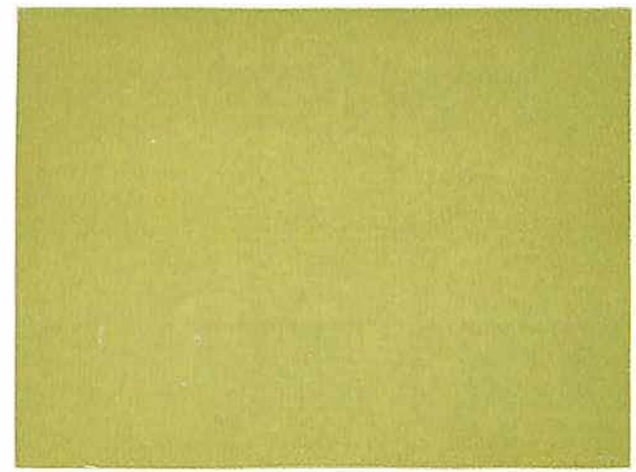
TANKS/BUNDHS

Number Constructed		People Covered
Previous Years	68	6,800
1979	9	900

Material Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
85%	15%





RING WELLS

Number Constructed		People Covered
Previous Years	50	5,000
1979	23	2,300

Material Participation (1979)

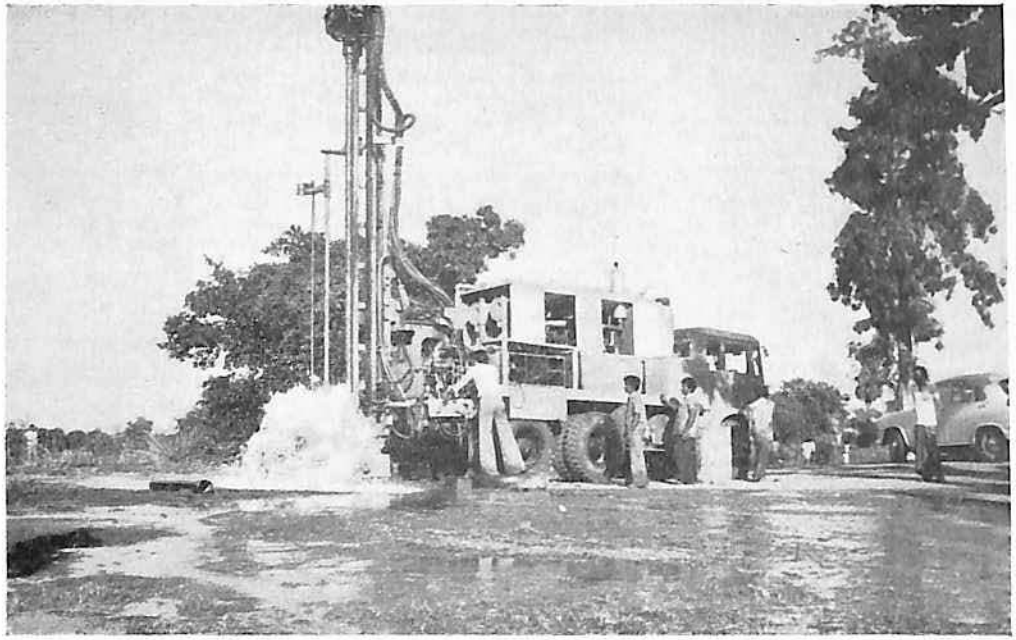
LWS	Target Group
85%	15%

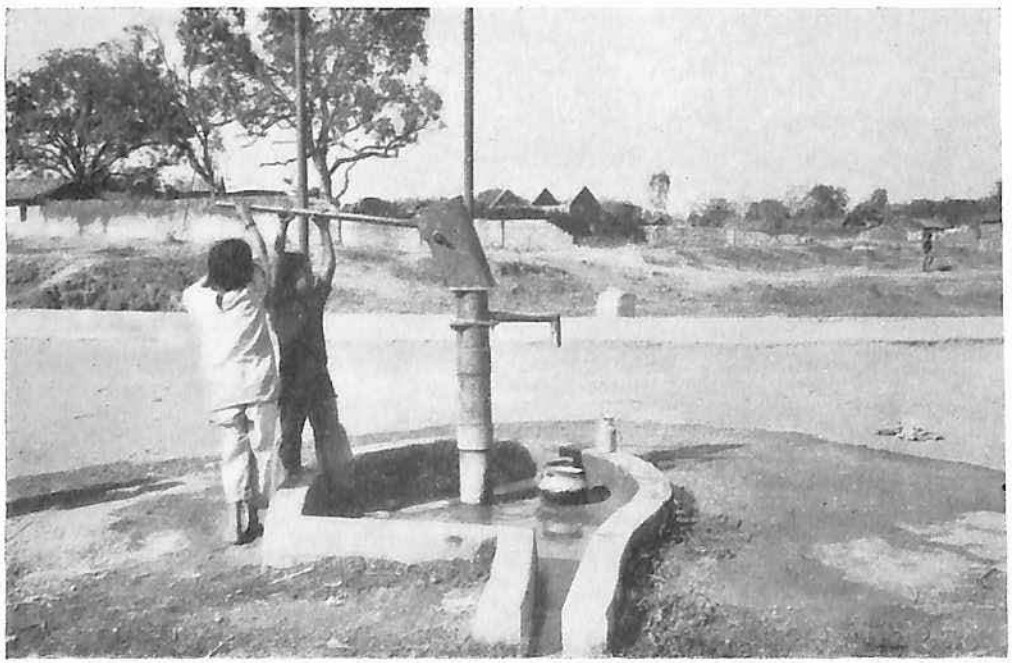
EDUCATION

Schools Constructed		Students Covered
Previous Years	7	1,200
1979	2	400

Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
75%	25%





. . . SO THAT WATER FLOWS . . .

The Halcomast 625 drilling rig acquired by the LWS in the middle of 1977 is unlike any other equipment used by the LWS for provision of water. This equipment manufactured in India, enables deep penetration into hard rock and is the only means by which water can be reached in underground acquifers. Purulia District along with Bankura in West Bengal and Santhal Parganas in Bihar are chronic drought prone areas. Moreover being an extension of the Chotanagpur Plateau the area is underlain by hard crystalline rocks of Archaen age. These areas are characterised by erratic and scanty rainfall, permitting the growth of one summer crop. The people are mostly small and marginal farmers, seasonal, migratory labourers and during the off season, due to want of food and drinking water are easy victims of stomach and skin diseases and malnutrition.

To assist the people in these areas LWS undertook drilling of wells both for irrigation and drinking water supply in Purulia District and has since extended its activities to the neighbouring Districts of Ranchi and Santhal Parganas in Bihar on the procurement of another Halcomast 625 and a Well Revitalisation Unit. Each drilling unit caters to a population of approximately 16,500 yearly.

25 farmers in Palaskura village in Purulia, converted a rock drilled borehole into a dug well as an experiment to find out the difference in water level between an ordinary dugwell where water percolates from the soft soil and the converted well. In the ordinary dugwell the water was no more than five feet in the summer months whereas in the case of the converted well it was three times more. Both the wells were of more or less the same diameter.

Gorachand Majhi a seasonal labourer took advantage of the increased water supply by cultivating wheat for the first time, and several other villagers joined him. They reaped a good harvest. In addition, vegetables were sown on three acres

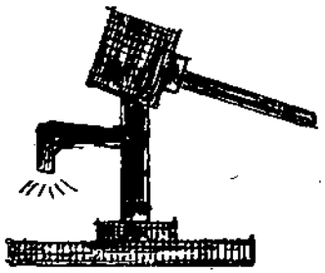
of land which enabled them to earn Rs. 1,000/- after taking care of their own consumption. These farmers still recall the recent past when they were forced to take up jobs as load and luggage carriers or porters to avoid starvation. Now they feel more secure about the future. In fact they have been encouraged to pursue the conversion of more drilled wells into dugwells to increase their agricultural activities and production.

The hot summer months of April to June, when the District was in the grip of a severe drought presurrised the WRP team to step up drilling of bores in the worst areas. The team along with the rig travelled miles to drill bores for drinking water which also took them right up into another LWS area of operation, the Ajodhya Hills programme. During 1979, AFPRO commenced detailed geo-hydrological survey of certain areas of Purulia District to find out irrigation water potential. Survey of Manbazar Block 1 area has been completed and the report reveals availability of underground water for irrigation purpose. Besides, they have also undertaken testing of wells drilled in other areas for irrigation to determine exact yield and spacing required between bores for a better yield.

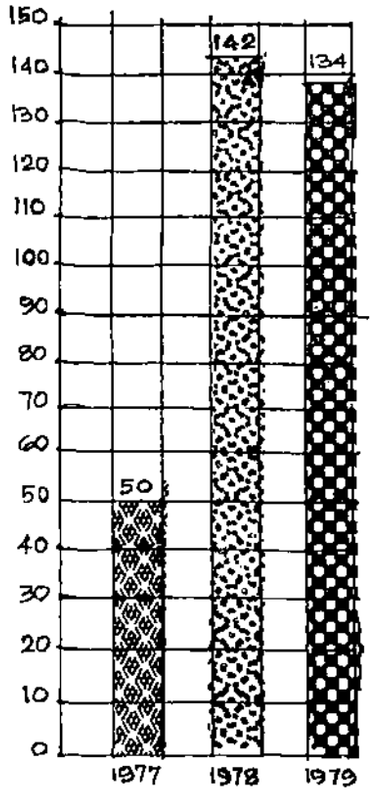
Experience showed that side by side with the sinking of tubewells it was extremely important to gear up the maintenance of the existing bores. It was realised that unless knowledge and skill to undertake simple repairs are acquired by the villagers the maintenance of tubewells would become a problem. 15 villagers from seven 'Anchals' (zones) came forward to receive training by the technical staff of the LWS. These trained villagers are now able to undertake repairs and see to the maintenance of the wells.

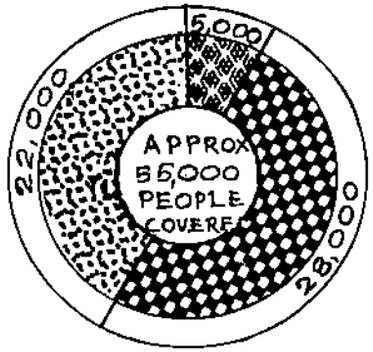
The Well Revitalisation Unit facilitates increased yield in dug wells mainly for irrigation through linking the well with other water-bearing strata and expanding the storage capacity of the wells by blasting. This unit goes into operation as soon as the water in the wells recedes.

Water Resources Project



WATER RESOURCES PROJECT.
(DRILLING)



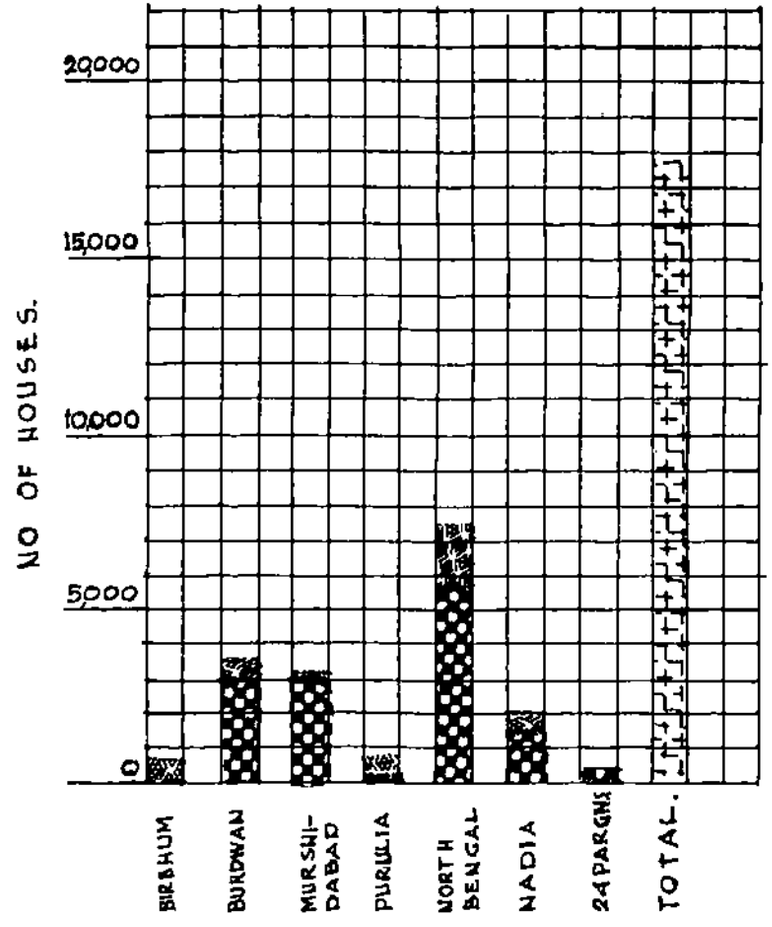


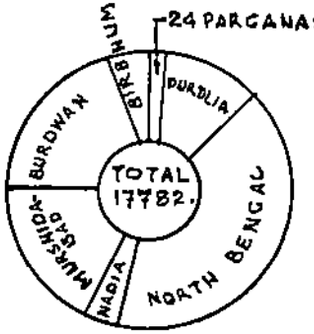
NUMBER OF WELLS DRILLED			AVERAGE YIELD PER WELL 1200 GPH.
FOR IRRIGATION	39	TOTAL 326	
FOIR DRINKING	287		

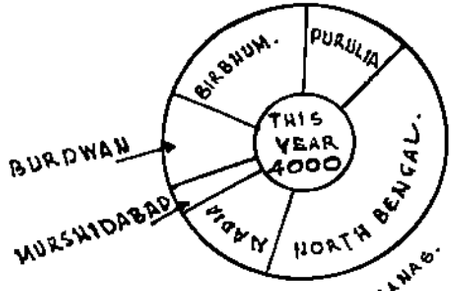
PAIRTICIPATION.		
L.W.S 70%	GOVT. 25%	PEOPLE 5%

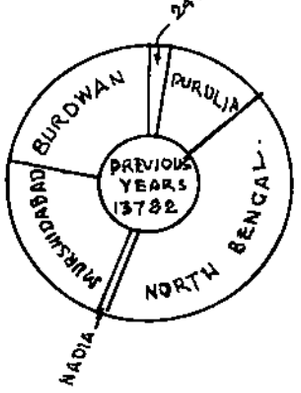
HOUSES COMPLETED

PREVIOUS YEARS.
THIS YEAR
TOTAL.



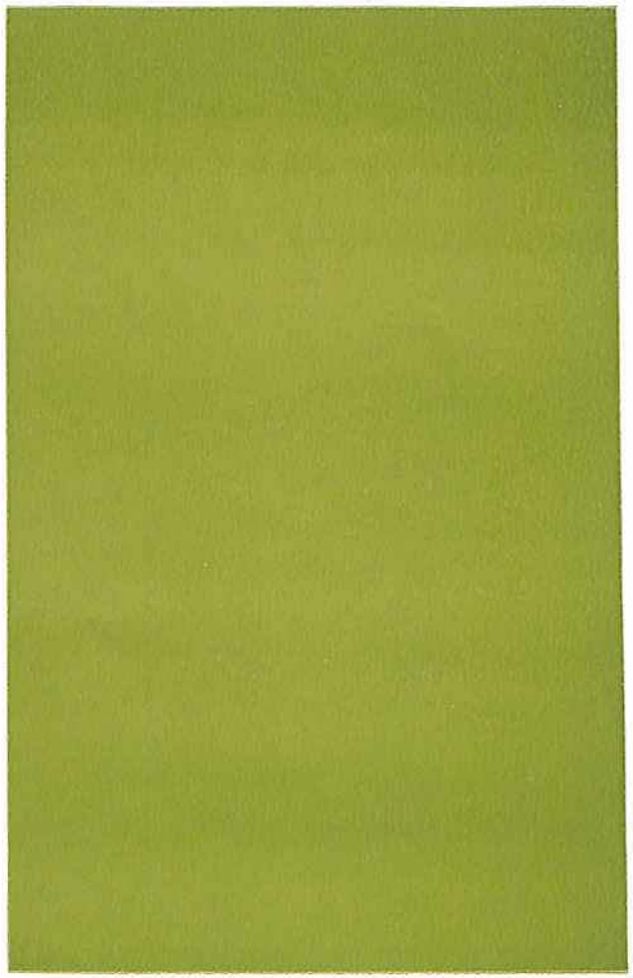






PARTICIPATION (APPROX)			
L.W.S.	GOVERNMENT		PEOPLE
	LAND	MATERIAL	
40%	20%	30%	10% - 30%

THE SHELTERLESS . . .



Apart from the River Ganges which takes its toll of human lives and properties through annual floods and erosion, several major rivers in the region which also originate in the Himalayas, render thousands of people homeless every year.

The part of West Bengal State that lies north of the river Ganges is known as North Bengal, which is administratively divided into five Districts—Malda, West Dinajpur, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar. The region has a total population of over 7.4 million (Census 1971). Murshidabad District occupying the north-eastern boundary of West Bengal with an area of 5,341 sq. kms. and a population of 3 million, is situated in the lower Ganges valley separated from the adjoining District of Malda in the north by the same river ; whereas Nadia District is adjacent to and south of Murshidabad. Birbhum lies to the north-west of Calcutta.

North Bengal and Murshidabad share a very long border with Bangladesh and, therefore, the region is particularly vulnerable to the refugee problem. The flow of refugees started after 1945 but the greatest number of refugees crossed over to this part of India after 1947-48. Fleeing for their lives, the majority of these people had to leave behind all their earthly possessions in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). Landless, homeless and jobless, these people became an additional burden on the already strained economy of the region. Even now, it is reported that the refugees are crossing over to India though in smaller numbers.

There is a constant need for resettlement of the homeless and landless agricultural labourers, erosion affected people and also refugees.

"Housing is one of the basic needs of the people, next in importance only to food, clothing and drinking water. Housing in a comprehensive sense includes, besides shelter, the space, the privacy, functional needs, sanitary facilities, location and environmental amenities. A house is a place where one spends from one-half to one-third of one's life. It is, therefore, one of the most important things that may affect human welfare and quality of life. In view of this the LWS India has attached much importance to its Housing Programme".

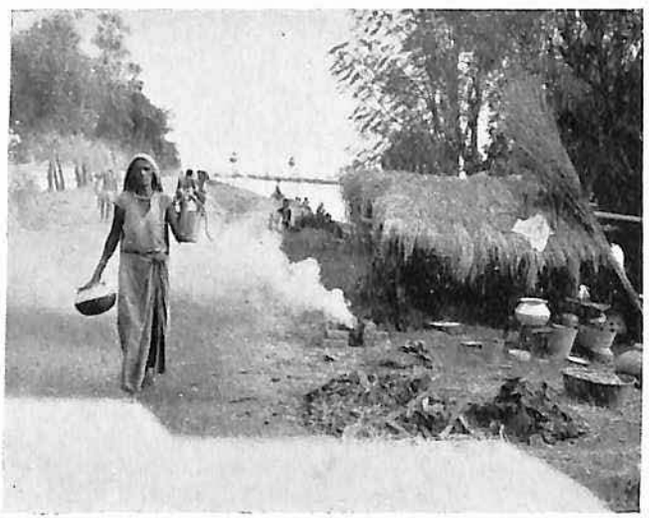
— Extract from PREM External Members' Evaluation Report on LWS Housing Programme, dated January 22, 1980.

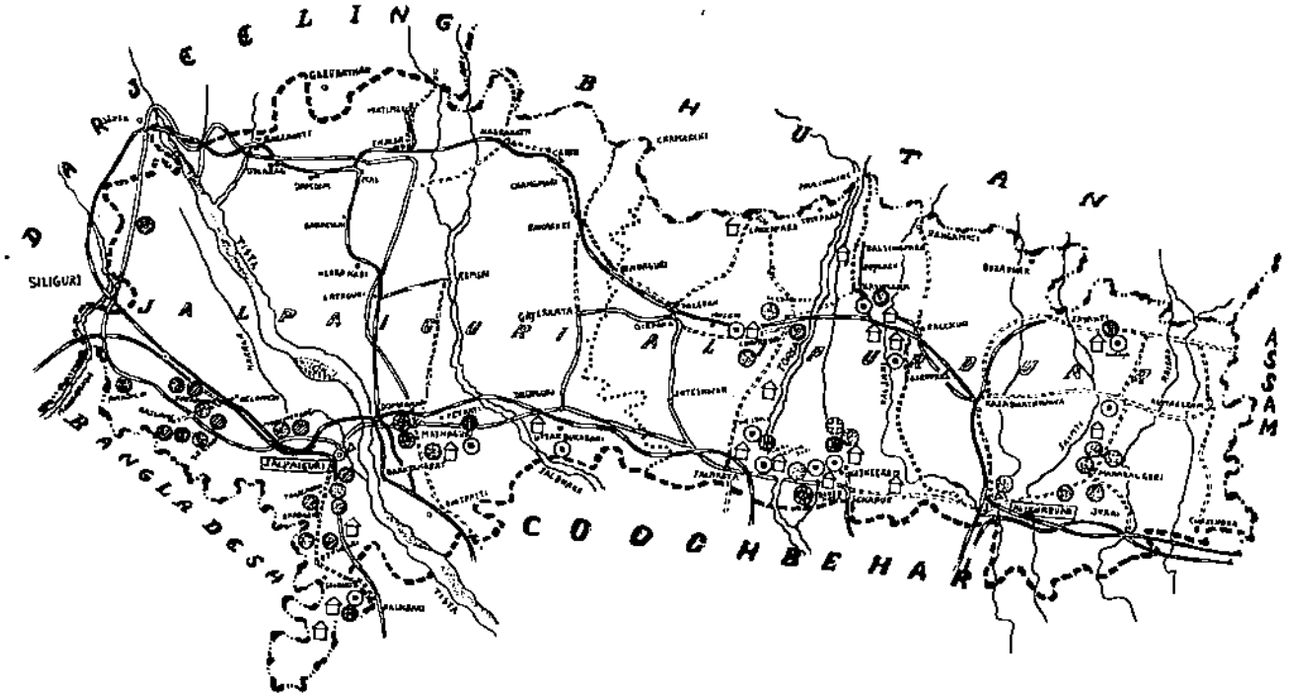
In 1975 the State Government invited the LWS to join hands in collaborating with it to rehouse approximately 20,000 families during a span of four years beginning 1976. It was agreed that the Government would provide a minimum of two decimals of an acre to each family and wherever possible additional land would be given for kitchen gardening and for growing cash crops. Besides this, is was also agreed that the Government would provide material aid. The quantitative participation of the target group varied from 10 to 30 per cent of the total cost. By the end of 1979, 17,782 houses were constructed.

Housing Resettlement Project

Most of the people are seasonal labourers trekking long distances in search of work. Their hard labour brings them a small pittance with which to support their families and they often go without food, clothing and shelter. Yet they too yearn for a settled community and family life. The formation of housing colonies is preparatory to and forestalls the formation of community life. These living and growing communities experience the strength and power of united effort. There is a sharing and coming together, an awareness of their common rights and inherent potentialities. Moreover, for the first time many are beginning to shed the shackles of oppression. They are uniting into cooperative bodies, placing their needs before outside agencies of support such as banks, voluntary organisations and the Government, for initial "protection" in the formation of small-scale cottage industries or self-help projects and financial assistance in the form of loans and material aid.

Formation of Cooperatives and Associations, by pooling in of resources of individual colony member into one Group has enabled the rural infrastructure to play an important role in the uplift of the people, enabling them to take advantage of progressive methods placed at their disposal and achieve better results. In several cases Co-operatives have solved their own problems taking their rightful place as the "organisation of the weak". They play a significant role by providing various services like provision or arrangement of credit from their own revolving funds or from Banks of local Institutions for purchase of milch animals, goats, cattle, pigs, collection of milk, etc.





LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE
NORTH BENGAL
JALPAIGURI

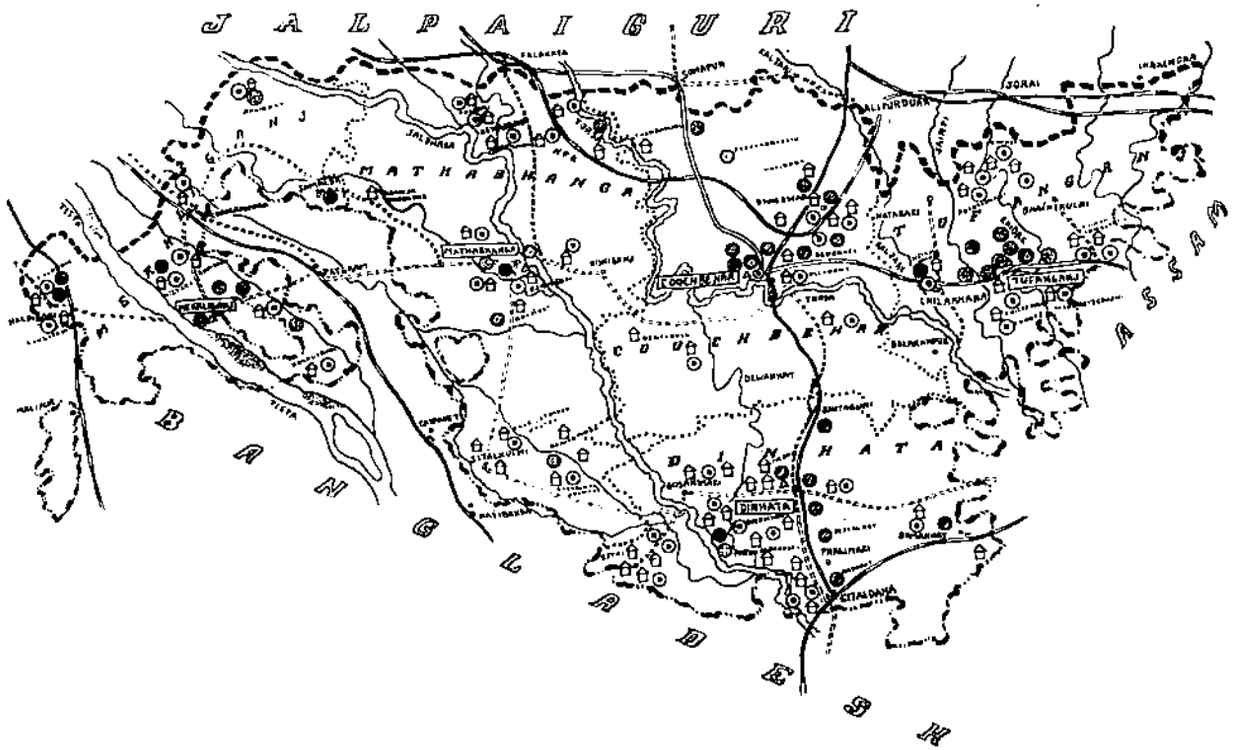
N

SCALE :- CENTIMETRES = KILOMETRES.

SUB-DIVISION	BLOCK
1. JALPAIGURI	1. JALPAIGURI 2. RAJGANJ 3. MAINAGURI 4. DHUPGURI 5. MAL
2. ALIPURDUAR	1. ALIPURDUAR - I 2. ALIPURDUAR II 3. MADARIHAT 4. KUMARGRAM 5. KALCHINI 6. BIRPARA

REFERENCE

STATE BOUNDARY	
DISTRICT BOUNDARY	
SUB-DIVISIONAL BOUNDARY	
RAILWAYS	
ROADS	
RIVER	
HOUSING PROGRAMME	
MEDICAL PROGRAMME	
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME	
SERICULTURE PROGRAMME	
DRINKING WATER SUPPLY	
COMMUNITY SELF HELP PROGRAMME	
MEDICAL PLANTS PROGRAMME	



LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE
NORTH BENGAL
COOCH BEHAR

SCALE :- CENTIMETRE KILOMETRES

SUB DIVISION.	BLOCK.
1 COOCHBEHAR	1 COOCHBEHAR I. 2. COOCHBEHAR-II
2. DINHATA	1 DINHATA - I 2. DINHATA - II 3. SITAI
3 MATHABHANGA	1 MATHABHANGA I 2 MATHABHANGA-II 3 SITALKUCHI.
4. TUFANGANJ	1. TUFANGANJ
5 MEKHLIGANJ	1 MEKHLIGANJ 2. HALDIBARI

REFERENCE

STATE BOUNDARY.	
DISTRICT BOUNDARY.	
SUB-DIVISIONAL BOUNDARY.	
RAILWAYS.	
ROADS.	
RIVER.	
HOUSING PROGRAMME.	
MEDICAL PROGRAMME.	
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME.	
DRINKING WATER SUPPLY.	
SERICULTURE PROGRAMME	
COMMUNITY SELF HELP PROGRAMME	

NORTH BENGAL

Nandajhar Colony in North Bengal has 126 families, of which 13 are Santals and the rest are Scheduled Castes. Within a spell of two years the people by dint of hard work and determination and with the material and technical support of the LWS have started moving on to achieving fairly good results. Every effort has been made to bring whatever land is available under cultivation. Practically every house has a kitchen garden with vegetables, fruit trees and mulberry or castor plants. Some of the vegetable varieties like patal (local vegetable) and radish grown by them has a special demand in the neighbouring markets and merchants from distant markets are making bulk purchases of the vegetables grown. Two adult education centres are being run by the people. At their instance a post office has been opened by the Government. Five shallow tubewells have been sunk by the people by taking loans from a rural bank, to irrigate the available cultivable land. The settlers have formed a Cooperative named "Nandajhar-Santipur Colony Samabay Samity". A gradual transformation has been taking place in the other colonies of North Bengal as well.

Since the inception of the programme, approximately 7461 families have been rehoused in North Bengal. These families including marginal farmers and school children were able to obtain training in mulberry cultivation for taking up sericulture. When this programme was initiated in 1976 on an experimental basis, the farmers were hesitant to start this venture as they were uncertain of its viability. However, with the setting up of demonstration farms-cum-training centres in Sariam and seven other places, the farmers and the colony settlers were convinced that

- sericulture can be taken up at their spare time by the family members,
- sericulture would offer them a quick cash return, and
- they could earn subsidiary income by utilising fallow land for mulberry cultivation.

Sericulture is an agro-based scientific process involving three stages—

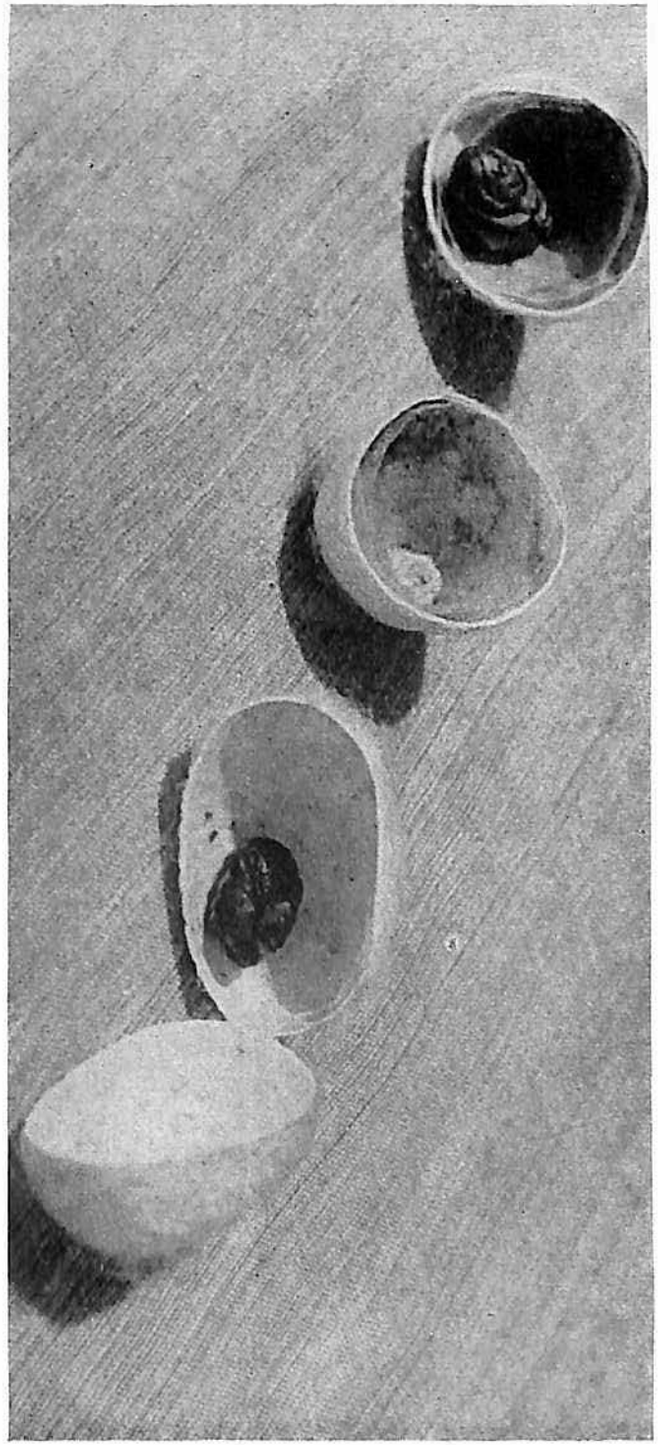
- mulberry cultivation,
- silkworm rearing, and
- cocoon production.

When the cocoon is produced, it is reeled and raw silk is obtained. From then onwards the silk weaving starts.

Approximately 2,500 families have been covered under sericulture programmes. 127 acres of land have been brought under mulberry cultivation during 1979, employing scientific methods.

The sericulture programme was introduced in schools under work-cum-education scheme to train the students in mulberry plantation. Each school was provided an acre of land for plantation of mulberry. Initially the gardens are managed under direct supervision of the LWS staff. Subsequently, they are handed over to the school authorities to maintain on their own and train the students. Under this scheme twelve gardens have been taken over by twelve schools and in another seven schools plantation has been completed in 1979. People continue to be trained in sericulture. In 1979 a total of 162 candidates, including four from the Government Forest Department were trained as tabled below :

Centres	Cultivation	Reeling	Spinning	Weaving
Sariam	15	5	29	19
Hodnegram	3	7	16	20
Madarihat	4	—	—	—
Tufanganj	15	5	15	5
Islampur	2	—	—	—
Nimasarai	2	—	—	—
Total	41	17	60	44



LUTHERANWORLD SERVICE
NORTH BENGAL
MALDA

SCALE : 1 CENTIMETRE = KILOMETRES.

SUB DIVISION	BLOCK
1. MALDA (ENGLISHBAZAR)	1. ENGLISH BAZAR
	2. OLD MALDA
	3. KALIACHAK-I
	4. KALIACHAK-II
	5. KALIACHAK-III
	6. MANIKCHAK
	7. RATUA - I
	8. RATUA - II
	9. HABIBPUR
	10. CHANCHAL I
	11. GAZOL
	12. CHANCHAL II
	13. CHANCHAL III
	14. HARISCHANDRAPUR I
	15. HARISCHANDRAPUR II

PURNIA (BIHAR)

WEST DINAJPUR

SANTAL PARGANAS (BIHAR)

BANGLADESH

LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE
NORTH BENGAL
WEST DINAJPUR

SCALE :- 3 CENTIMETRES = KILOMERE

N

DARJEELING

PURNIA (BIHAR)

SUB-DIVISION	BLOCK
1. ISLAMPUR	1. ISLAMPUR
	2. CHOPRA
	3. GOALPOKHAR- I
	4. GOALPOKHAR II
	5. KARANDIGHI.
2. RAIGANJ	1. RAIGANJ
	2. HEMTABAD
	3. KALIAGANJ
	4. KUSHMANDI
	5. BANSIHARI
	6. ITAHAR
3. BALURGHAT	1. BALURGHAT
	2. NILS
	3. KUMARGANJ
	4. GANGARAMPUR
	5. TAPAN

REFERENCE

STATE BOUNDARY.	
DISTRICT BOUNDARY	
SUB-DIVISIONAL BOUNDARY	
ROADS	
RAILWAYS	
RIVER	
HOUSING PROGRAMME	
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME	
DRINKING WATER SUPPLY	
MEDICAL PROGRAMME	
SERICULTURE PROGRAMME	
COMMUNITY SELF HELP PROGRAMME	
MEDICINAL PLANTS PROGRAMME	

BALURGHAT

BANGLADESH

RING WELLS

Number Constructed		People Covered
Previous Years	6	600
1979	59	6,000

Material Participation

LWS	Target Group
95%	5%

TUBEWELLS

Tubewells Sunk		People Covered
Previous Years	1,724	172,400
1979	234	23,400

Material Participation

LWS	Target Group
95%	5%

HOUSING

Houses Constructed		People Assisted
Previous Years	5,780	31,790
1979	1,681	9,245

Material Participation

LWS	Government	Target Group
45%	45%	10%

SANITATION

Latrines Installed	99

AGRICULTURE EXTENSION

Families Covered	166

KITCHEN GARDEN

Total number of Saplings provided	18,320	
Total number of seedlings	14,250	
Total quantity of seeds	653	kgs.
Families covered	3,155	

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

	Quantity	Families Covered
Goats	270	256
Sheep	229	210
Pigs	23	22
	522	488

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

Type of Centres	No.	Families Covered
Weaving	5	145
Tailoring	3	74
	8	219

INDIVIDUAL SELF-HELP

Potters	7
Rice Huskers	303
Blacksmiths	3
Others	4

EDUCATION

Schools Constructed		Students Covered
Previous Years	31	5,900
1979	18	3,600

Material Participation

LWS	Target Group
90%	10%

TRAINING

Persons trained (1979)

Sericulture	41
Reeling	17
Spinning	60
Weaving	44
Tailoring	12
Total	174

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Plantation of Citronella Java	35	acres
Distillation Plant	1	
Families Covered	43	

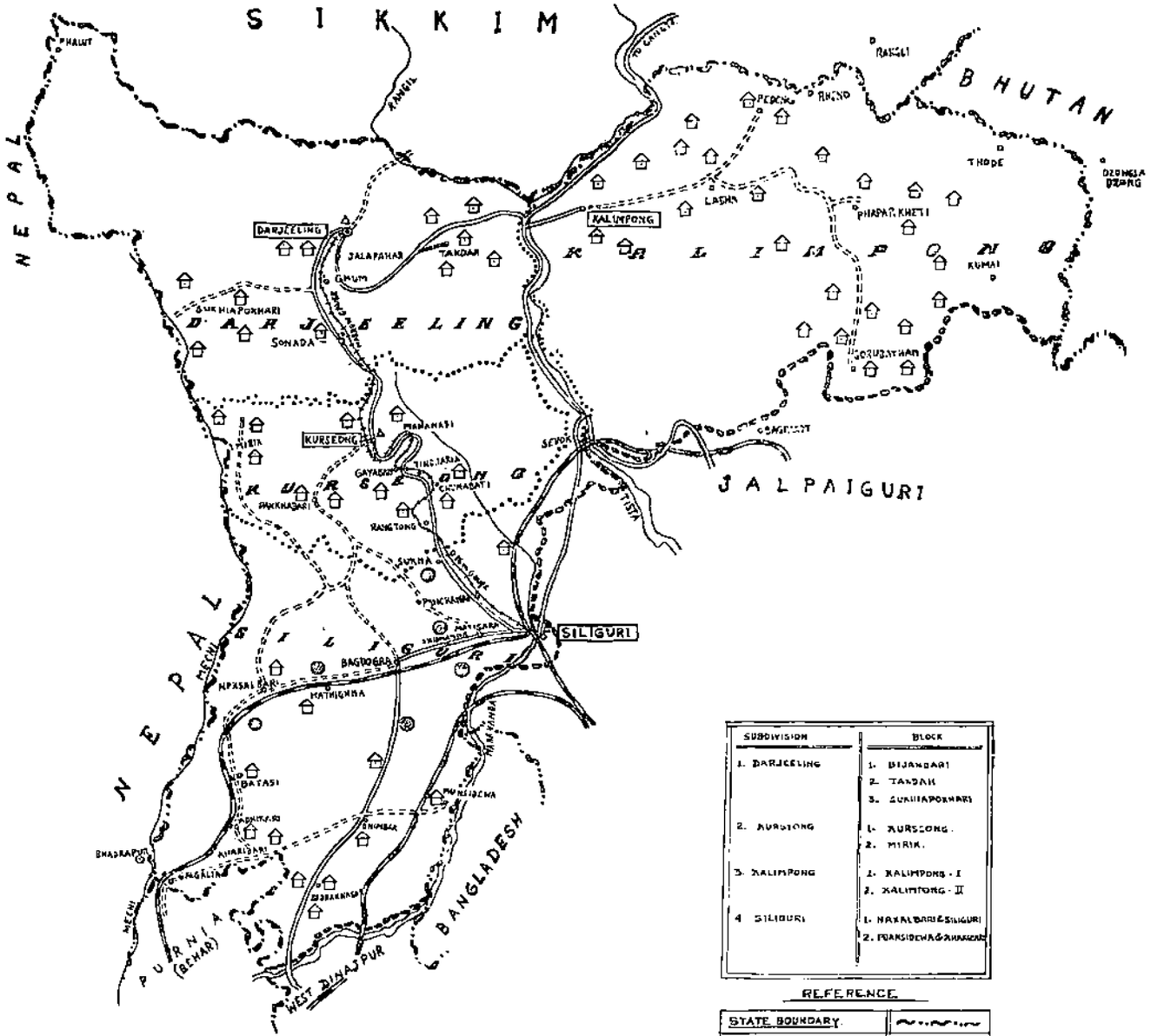
Jamadharbosh. 'Medicinal Plants' taken over by NELC.

SERICULTURE

Mulberry Plantation	127	acres
Demonstration/Training Centres (including Mulberry cultivation, rearing, reeling, weaving)	8	
Work-cum-Education	7	schools
Rearing Houses	11	
Families Covered	2500	

LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE
NORTH BENGAL
DARJEELING

SCALE :- 1 CENTIMETRE = KILOMETRES



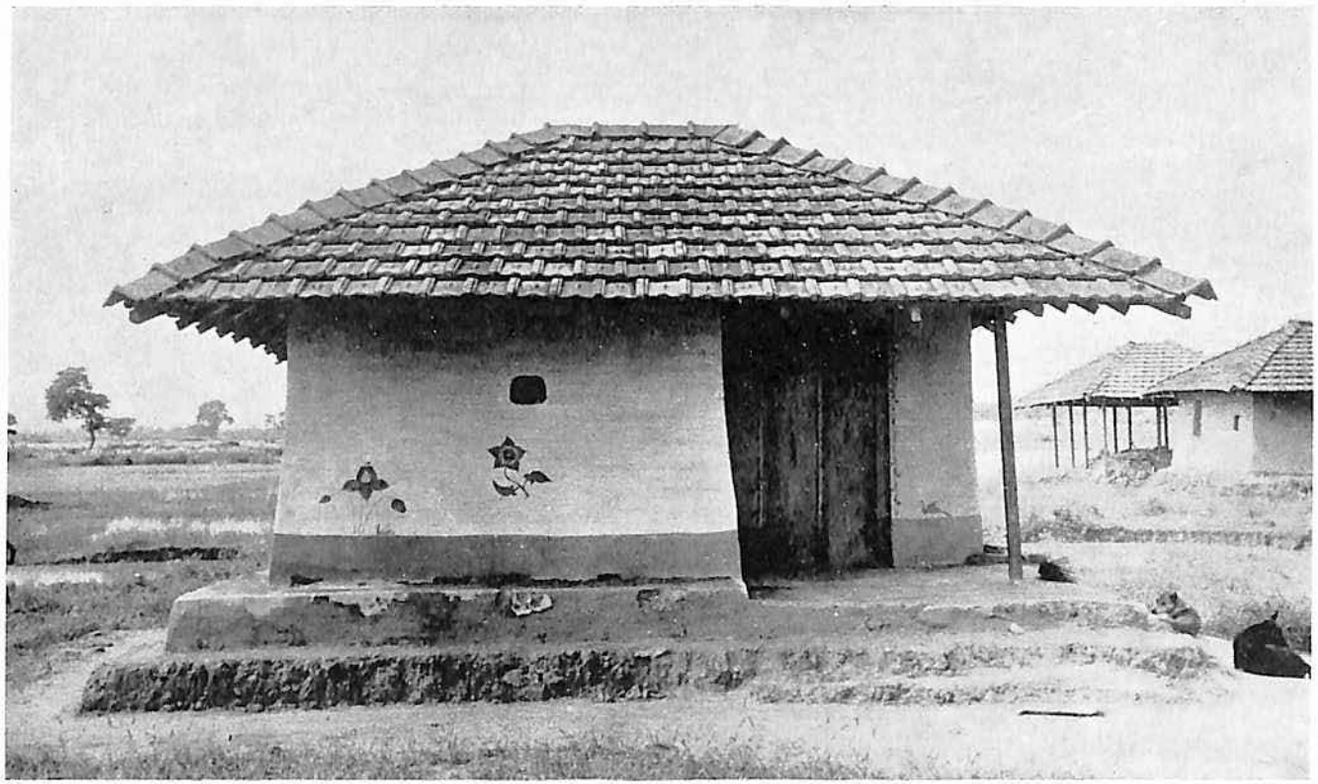
SUBDIVISION	BLOCK
1. DARJEELING	1. BIJANBARI 2. TAKDAH 3. SUKHIAPOKHARI
2. KURSEONG	1. KURSEONG. 2. MIRIK.
3. KALIMPONG	1. KALIMPONG - I 2. KALIMPONG - II
4. SILIGURI	1. NAXALBARI & SILIGURI 2. PHANSIDEWA & MAHANADI

REFERENCE

STATE BOUNDARY.	
SUB-DIVISIONAL BOUNDARY.	
BLOCK BOUNDARY.	
RAILWAY.	
RIVER.	
ROADS.	
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME.	
HOUSING PROGRAMME.	

Drawn By: Krishna Kamal Guha.

MURSHIDABAD & NADIA



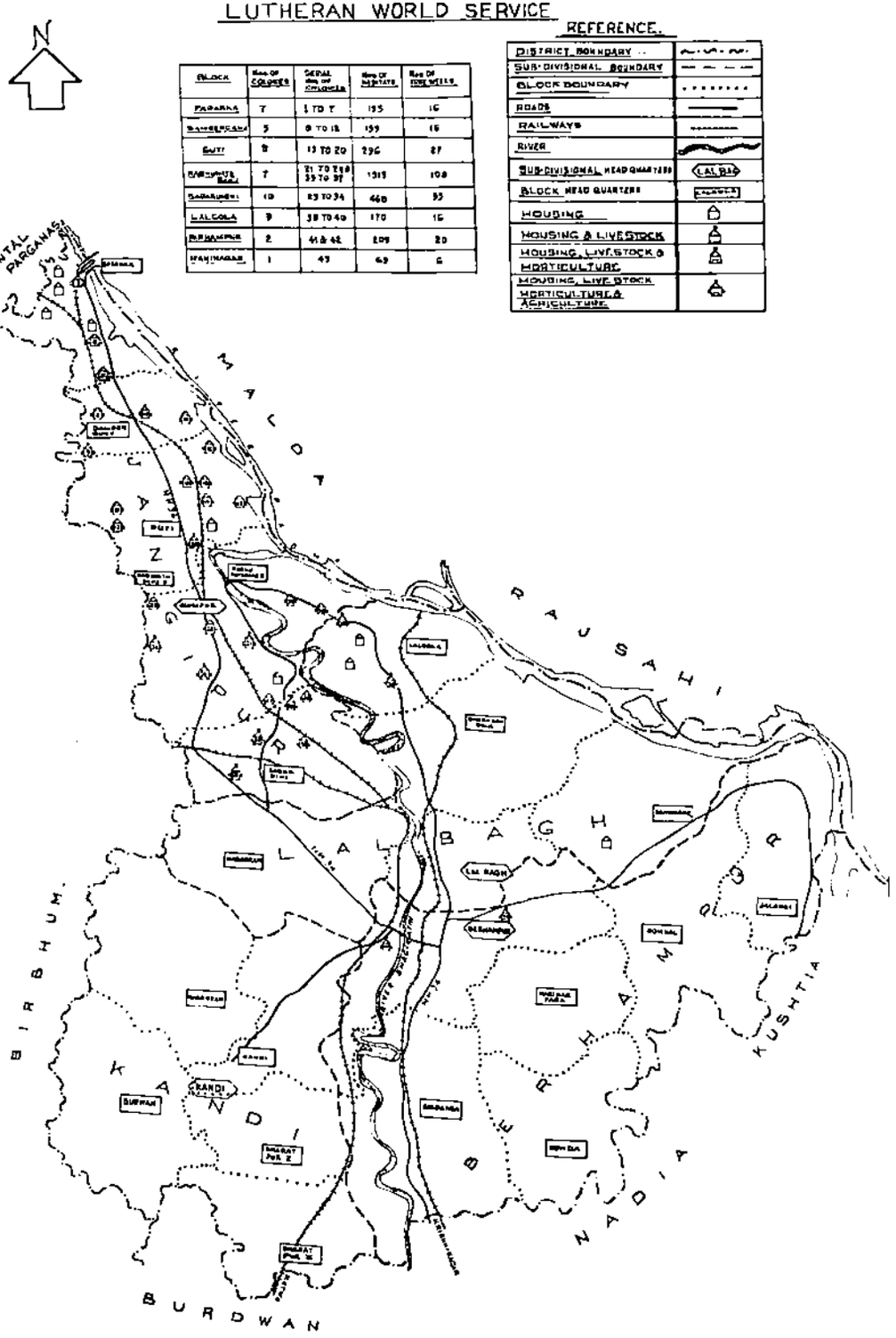
The 72 families of Mirzapur Colony in Murshidabad District are mainly Scheduled Castes and Muslims. By occupation, they have been seasonal agricultural labourers, nomadic by necessity; during the lean months they were forced to wander to greener fields in search of work. These Colony members formed and had registered the "Mirzapur Resettlement Colony Welfare Society". This Society devised several welfare schemes for the benefit of its members. For instance, an expert weaver was engaged in weaving on a piece rate basis with specific instructions to train the women folk in the Colony. Today there are 14 weavers producing cheap and durable lungis, dhotis, saris, etc. which have a ready market in the Colony and nearby villages. Weaving is economically viable since the surrounding villages are also having weaving centres from where raw materials are readily available. Sericulture was introduced in this Colony in October 1976 on two acres of land which was brought under mulberry cultivation. A rearing house of 4 rack capacity with an attached loom house with two pit looms and a reeling shed with two 'kat-ghais' have been erected. Three families were helped with 'dhenki' for rice husking and paddy to start with.

A tank which is adjacent to the Colony has a significant economic and social implication for the people. It was taken on yearly lease for Rs. 75/- from the Government in 1977. And in March 1978 the Welfare Society of the Colony sold 135 kgs. of fish for Rs. 1,080 fetching a net profit of Rs. 580/-; this was deposited in their savings account. Early in 1979 a meeting was called to discuss the deweeding of the tank and it was resolved that the deweeding of three acre tank would be done by the people themselves, each family sparing one member for work in the tank for a day. It was also decided that there would be a community lunch on that day for the 72 people who would take part in the deweeding. Eight widows who were not able to spare a male member for deweeding cooked community lunch for the volunteers and the work was completed in a single day. This incident serves as an inspiration even to this day of what the community can achieve by a healthy spirit of cooperation.

The people have set out on the path of self-reliance. By giving careful consideration to the various schemes for their welfare as is evidenced in such colonies as Lengri Bibir Bata, Beniapara, etc., the people are slowly moving on towards their goal.

DISTRICT MURSHIDABAD

LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE



LIVESTOCK

	Fowls & Ducks	Pigs	Cows	Goats	Bullocks
Previous Years	52	—	10	214	—
1979	71	41	—	50	4

Families Assisted	423

HOUSING

Houses Constructed	People Assisted
Previous Years 3,131	17,220
1979 604	3,322

Participation (1979)

LWS	Government	Target Group
45%	45%	10%

EDUCATION

Schools Constructed	Students Covered
Previous Years 8	1,600
1979 6	850

Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
75%	25%

AGRICULTURE ASSISTANCE/SELF-HELP

Schemes Implemented	Families Covered	Colonies Covered
Individual Self-Help	337	42
Animal Husbandry	423	38
Horticulture and Kitchen Garden	2,625	44
Training	141	40

Participation

LWS	Government	Bank	Target Group
50%	30%	15%	5%

SANITATION

Latrines Installed	Families Covered
26	215

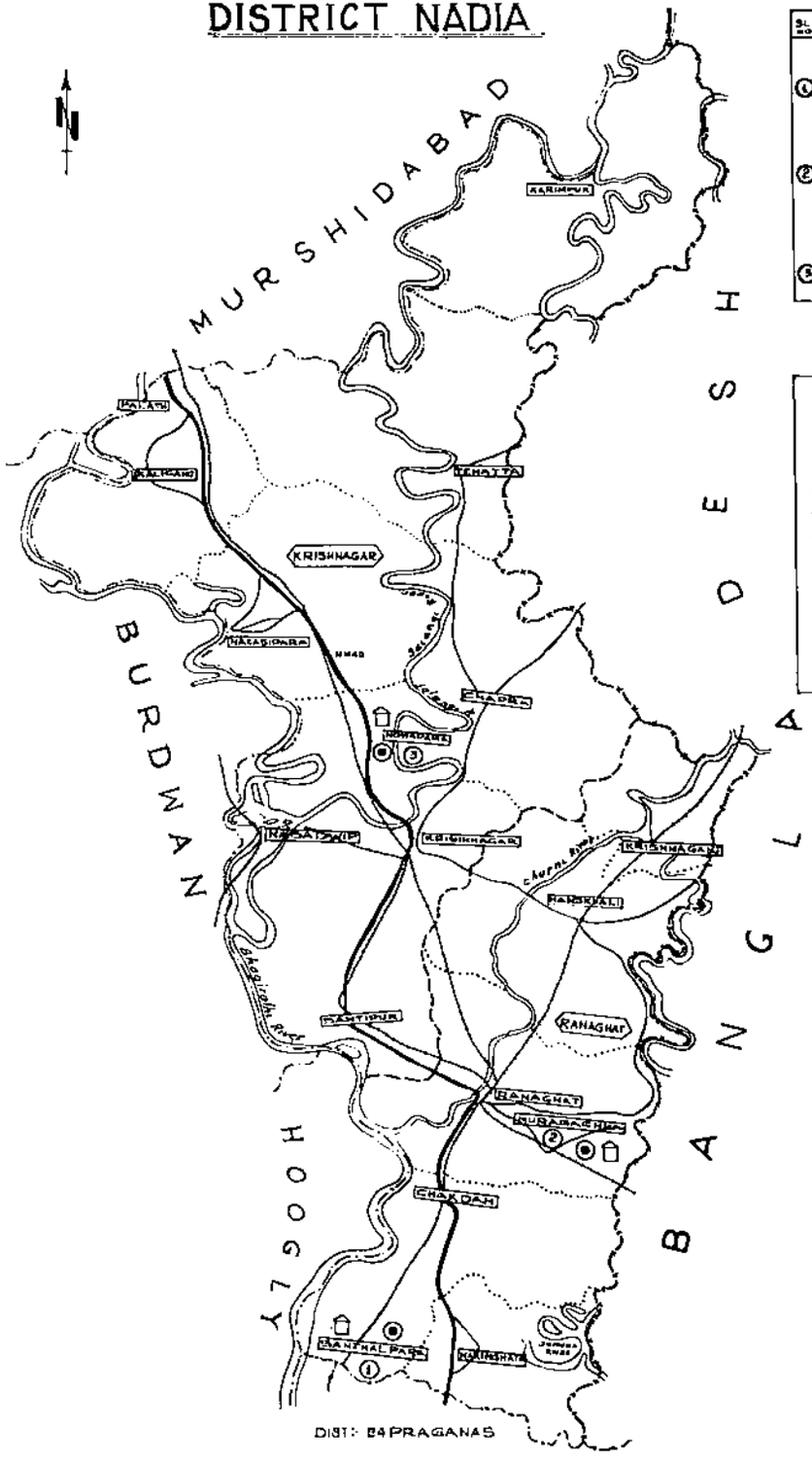
TUBEWELLS

Tubewells Sunk		People Covered
Previous Years	758	75,800
1979	100	8,000

Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
90%	10%

LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE
DISTRICT NADIA



STATEMENT OF HUTS & TUBE-WELLS PROVIDED IN VARIOUS COLONIES IN DISTRICT NADIA (WEST BENGAL)

Sl. no	Name of the colony	No. of Huts	No. of Tube wells
	CHAKDAH BLOCK		
1	SANTHALPARA (KALYANI)	356	7
	RANAGHAT II BLOCK		
2	MURAGACHHA	38	2
	KRISHNANAGAR II BLOCK		
3	NOWAPARA	72	1

REFERENCE

STATE BOUNDARY	
DISTRICT BOUNDARY	
SUB DEVISION BOUDARY	
BLOCK BOUNDARY	
ROAD	
RIVER	
RAILWAY LINE	
SUB-DEVISIONAL H. Q.	RANAGHAT
BLOCK H. Q.	CHAKDAH
HUTS	
TUBE WELLS	

BIRBHUM

Schemes Implemented

	Families Assisted	LWS Grants	Bank Loans
Rickshaws	18	25%	75%
Bidi Making	6	20%	80%
Batik Printing	6	25%	75%
Shop Keeping	30	60%	40%
Bamboo Basketry	5	100%	—
Knitting Nets	9	100%	—
Weaving	8	60%	40%

In Birbhum the Colony members have organised village committees with representatives from among the colonies. These committees review the proposals put up by individual or joint members of the community and thereafter submit the schemes to the Anchal Pradhan who certifies or recommends the scheme to the LWS. Several schemes have so far been implemented in Birbhum with the people's direct involvement, though the first batch of families were rehoused only in June 1979.

For instance, four rickshaw pullers have managed to free themselves from the money lenders to whom they were bound for hire of rickshaws. The schemes framed enabled them to receive 75% loans from Banks and 25% as grant from the LWS. They have opened recurring deposit schemes in the Banks and are repaying the loans in instalments. The people availing of the scheme are 18 in number.

Similarly, Kanun, a widow from Sriniketan Print Section, Moldanga Colony who has a real talent for batik printing and who had won the third prize in a batik print competition organised by the State Government has been able to increase her earnings after having received raw materials for printing through the Bank. Now she can cope with the orders she receives which she previously could not do for want of funds.

Hasi and Chabi Rani were sent for training in weaving to Sriniketan Training Centre on a monthly stipend. They have already completed two months training and with the help of raw materials and looms, their deft and skilled fingers are producing cheap and strong fabrics for sale in the colonies and the nearby town. Kitchen gardening is also becoming popular. The villagers are eager to start their own little gardens and every bit of land available is assiduously cultivated to grow vegetables for their own consumption and for marketing.

Ameresh Bairagya, a poor beggar has changed his profession to that of a tea stall keeper. It was discovered that he was good at making chops and light snacks. By taking advantage of a grant to open the shop, he now earns about Rs. 8/- per day providing light refreshments to passers-by and the colony people.

Several families have started individual house dairy schemes and goatery. Others are engaged in making bidis (local cigarettes) fishnets and bamboo baskets.

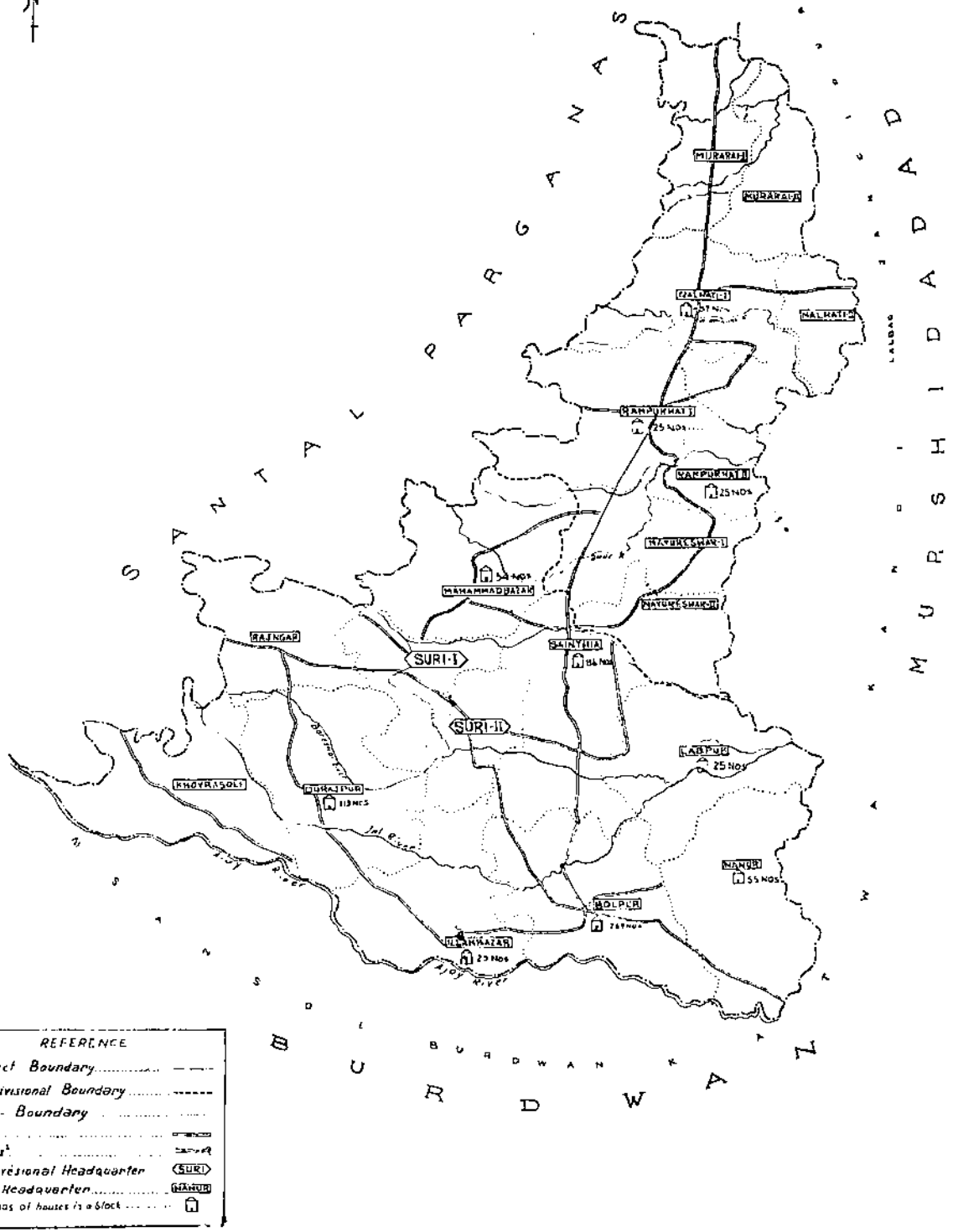
The Colonies are slowly progressing. Through their Associations the people are sharing common problems as well as the fruits of labour, knowledge, training and development.

LIVESTOCK (1979)		
Distribution		People Covered
Calves	22	120
Goats	65	365

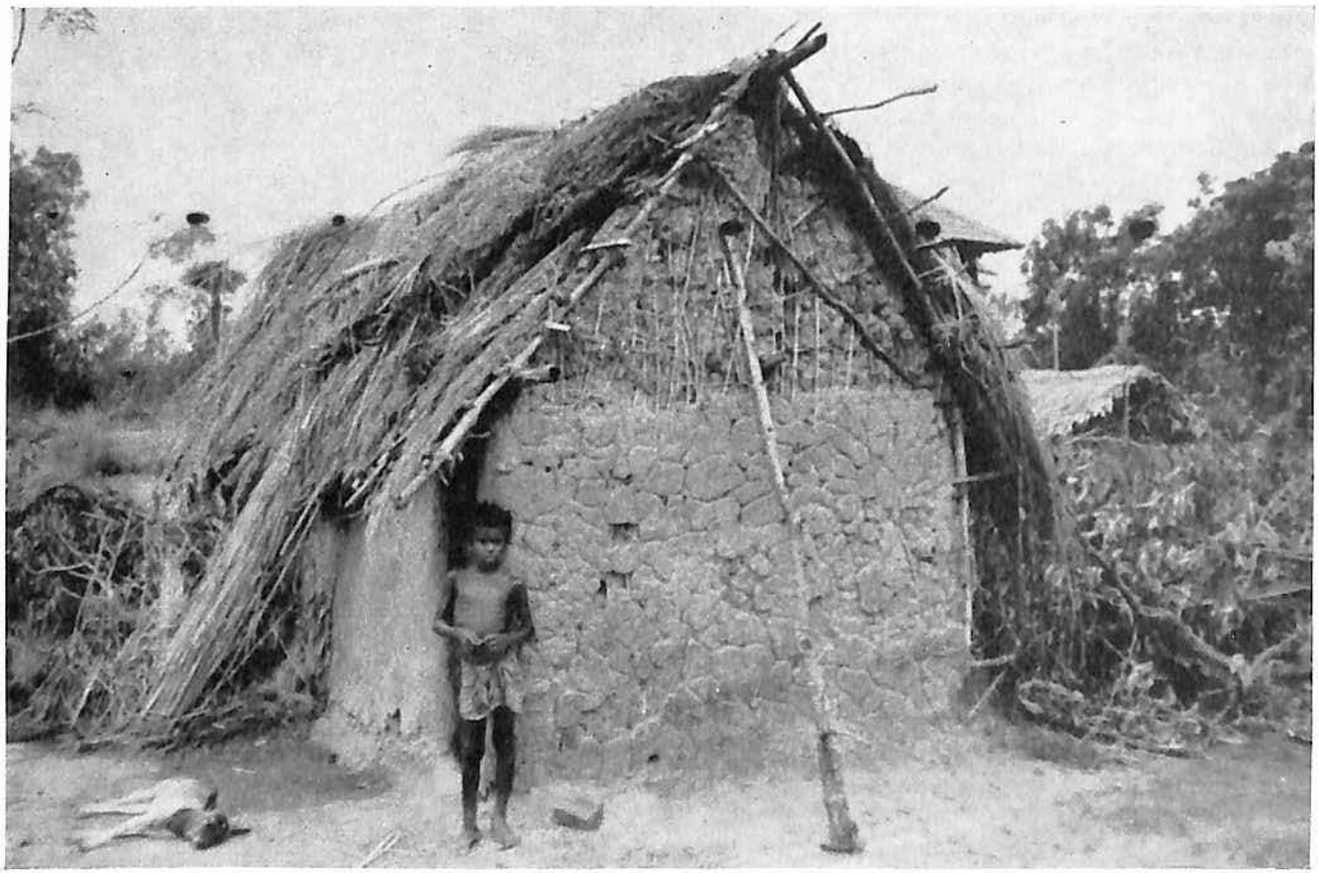
HOUSING (1979)		
Houses Constructed		People Covered
761		4,186
Participation (Approx.)		
LWS	Government	Others
50%	40%	10%

TUBEWELLS (1979)		
Tubewells Sunk		People Covered
38		4,000
Participation (Approx.)		
LWS	Government	Target Group
60%	30%	10%

LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE
DISTRICT BIRBHUM



YESTERDAY . . .



A visitor to the famous haven of learning and culture, the Visva Bharati University, founded by India's great poet and philosopher, Rabindranath Tagore, could never imagine that hidden away in the dense forests of the neighbouring villages of Jangal Mahal region of Burdwan District, are tribals, a people living in dark oblivion, poverty and ignorance, who have been victims of exploitation. These people were once upon a time lords of the jungle but with the inroads made upon them by civilized Man, they retreated further into the jungles to escape exploitation, reducing them to wood pickers and well drawers and subjugating them to a hapless servility. Attempts made by the Government since Independence to promote schemes for their development met with little success mainly because improved agriculture technology could not be utilised as they had no land of their own to cultivate. Neither could they avail of the benefits of health and education facilities as they were engaged in hard labour to eke out a living, leaving them little time to care for their well-being and mental development.

Jangal Mahal

Burdwan

TODAY . . .

The scene presents a different picture today. A scheme for integrated rural development was initiated in 1975 in Bhatar Block of Burdwan District. This scheme was extended to Jangal Mahal in Aushgram-I, II and Kanksa Blocks in the year 1977 by the LWS. In 1979, farmers in Jangal Mahal sank 83 tubewells for drinking water and 27 open wells for irrigation. Six Persian wheels, provision of pump sets and by-channel irrigation, facilitated 435 tribal families to bring 234 acres of agricultural land provided by the Government, under cultivation. Moreover, by utilising high yielding varieties of seeds and seedlings, 1,637 tribal families were able to reap richer yields than ever before on the land they brought under cultivation.

The people of Jangal Mahal have formed their own village Committees in most of the villages. More than 572 tribals, including the Chairmen of Village Committees, have undergone training in agriculture and allied subjects, arranged locally. Besides this, 123 tribals attended training in bee-keeping, over and above the following :–

They also attended the 54 documentary film shows arranged by the LWS in collaboration with the Government on piggery, poultry, agriculture, bee-keeping, health and hygiene, etc.

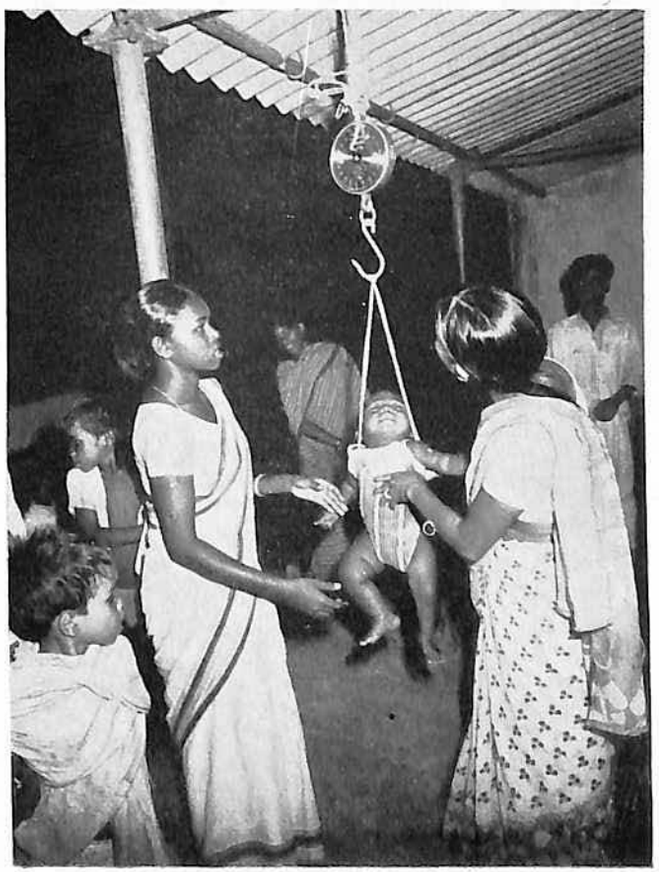
These in-training courses have gone a long way in educating the tribals on better and healthier living. When the participatory process of development started in Srichandrapur village, for instance, creation of a permanent source of potable water was one among the prime concerns. The result ..... better health for the population and cordial relation with all those who draw water from the tubewell, since no one is turned away.

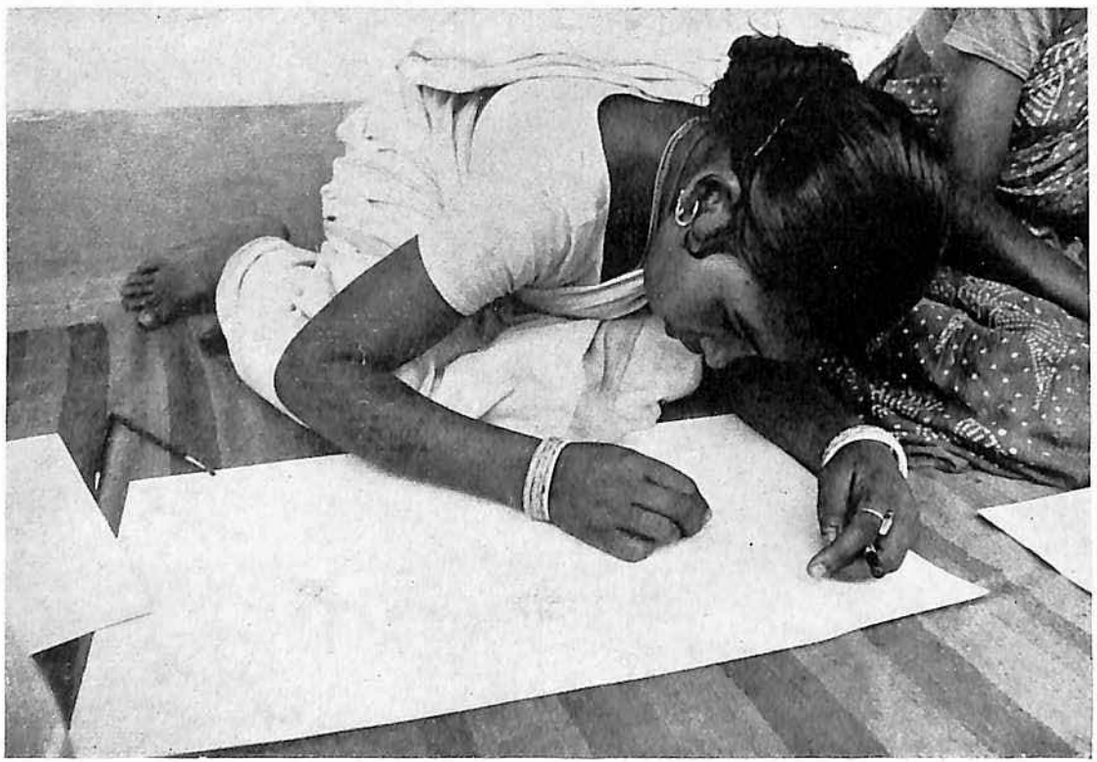
Better health has not been achieved by providing drinking water alone. There is now a systematic and active health programme, including Mother and Child care, advice on nutrition, and an immunisation programme. "We now go to Churki, the daughter of our next door neighbour, who gives us medicines for fever, stomach ailments, headache, ulcers and other ailments. The sisters weigh babies and record the weight on yellow cards", says Dhangi Murmu, a tribal woman of over 70 years. Churki is the locally trained village health worker, who is competent to deal with minor complaints, advises mothers on family health and collects children for immunisation.

Perhaps the fact that Churki belongs to the same community has alone made the health programme entirely acceptable to her people.

Not only Churki, but also other extension workers (tribals) are from the local villages. It is the youth of the community who energise awareness and confidence among their community, with a view to bringing about necessary attitudinal changes for social and economic development.

Type of Training	Trained	Earning Assured Income by using skills developed on their own	Joined Cooperative production centres	Under Training
Weaving	47	30	17	—
Sewing	156	128	28	38
Hobby Loom	22	20	2	—
Simac Knitting	40	40	—	9
Bidi Making	30	22	8	3
	295	240	55	50





HOUSING

Houses Constructed		People Assisted
Previous Years	3,255	17,900
1979	454	2,497

Participation (1979)

LWS	Government	Target Group
40%	35%	25%

EDUCATION

Schools Constructed		Students Covered
Previous Years	21	4,000
1979	5	1,000

Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
80%	20%

TRAINING

Audio Visual	Cottage Industries
54 villages & colonies covered	295 people trained

TUBEWELLS

Tubewells Sunk		People Covered
Previous Years	739	73,900
1979	100	10,000

Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
90%	10%

AGRICULTURE

	Acreage brought under cultivation	Families Covered
Previous Years	800	1,300
1979	345	1,637

Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
75%	25%

RING WELLS

Number Constructed		People Covered
Previous Years	51	5,100
1979	27	2,700

Participation (1979)

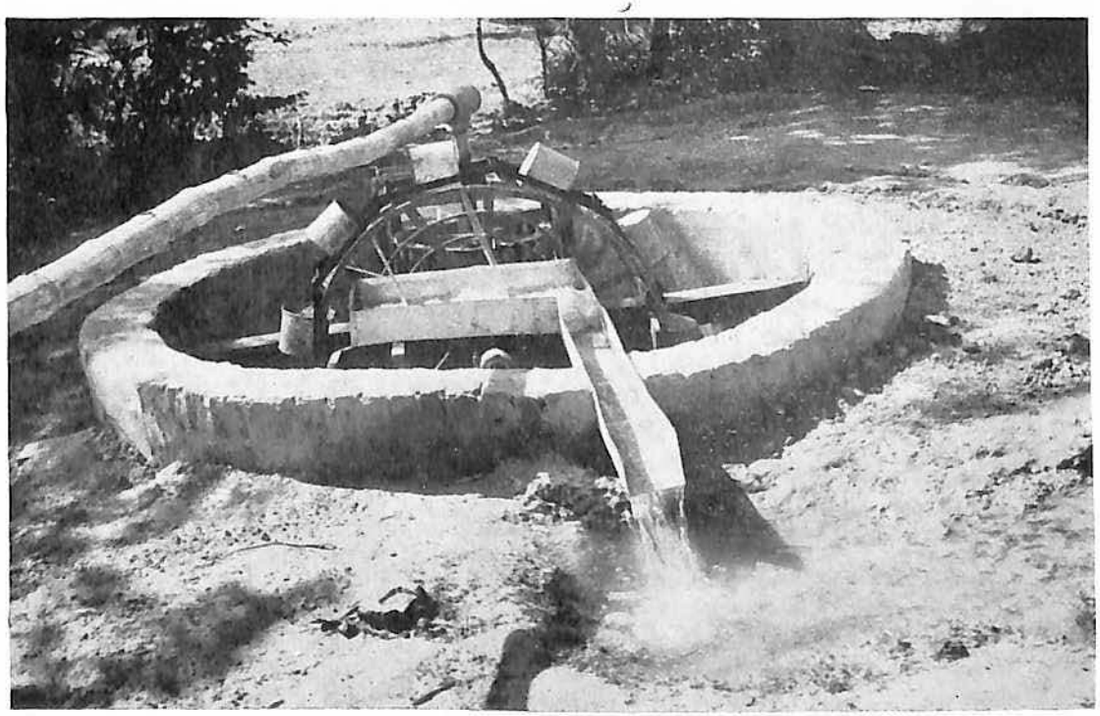
LWS	Target Group
90%	10%

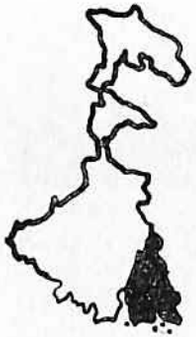
TANKS

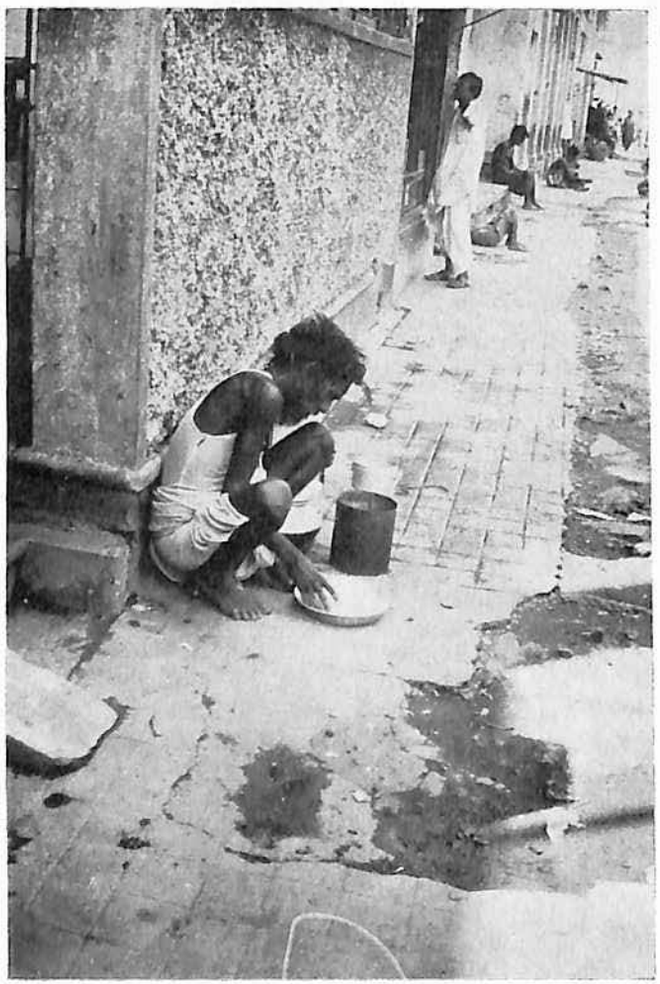
Tanks Excavated		People Covered
Previous Years	27	2,700
1979	1	100

Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
90%	10%







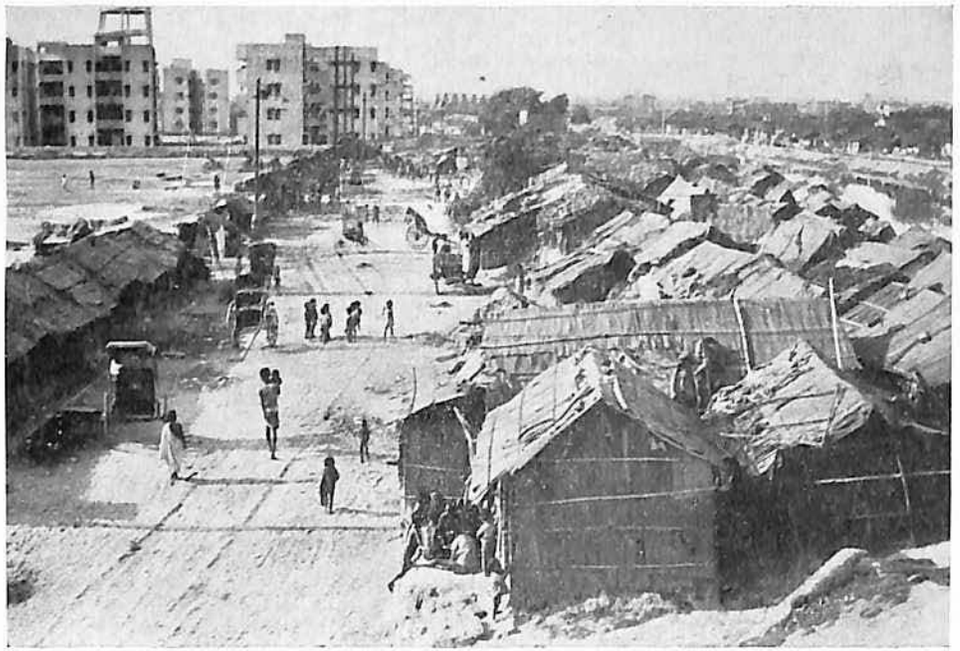
THE STREETS WHERE WE LIVE . . .

The pavements of Calcutta like no other city in the world have received the load of the shelterless living. Along the sidewalks of major thoroughfares and in greater concentrations at railway yards and alongside canal embankments are people demonstrating a heroic ability to live, despite their debased condition.

The more successful pavement dweller might find employment in a household as a part-time maid-servant returning at intervals to her children on the pavement, left in the care of older children. Some men get employment as rickshaw-pullers, cobblers or shoe-shiners. Whatever their trade, life is hard for them and their children do not have the opportunity to study as their time is spent looking after their little brothers and sisters or just begging for alms and food.

Pavement dwellers are left at the mercy of the elements, the cold night winds, the blazing sun of summer. A shower of rain sends them scampering for shelter under sheds or porches where they are mostly unwelcome. Often their few belongings are washed away by floods or some times stolen. They are victims of sickness and disease, suffering from want of proper nutrition and starvation. They are exposed to the dangers of street life, molestation and harassment. Sometimes they are caught thieving and pick-pocketing and children are easily susceptible victims of delinquency.

The pavement and slum dwellers of Calcutta are mostly people who had drifted into the city in search of employment. Many had fled from the rural countryside in the wake of floods, drought or pestilence. A vast number who converged upon the city are refugees. They trekked long distances from war-stricken areas on India's eastern borders, leaving behind their homes and belongings. Some were able to make good the losses they sustained by gainful employment whereas others were compelled to take up their abode on the streets and scrounge a living.



Pavement Dwellers Project

Calcutta

PAVEMENT SCHOOLS	
Centres in operation	22
Student Strength	1,000
Children Taught (1976-79)	2,000
No. gone for Higher Education and Vocational Training after Completing their Course	200
Tubewells Sunk at Pavement School Sites	10

With the focus on children in 1979 a special attempt was made to inject greater enthusiasm for and encouragement of the efforts of the little children attending the pavement schools established by the LWS in cooperation with the Janashiksha Prochar Kendra. The first pavement school was opened in early 1976 and the number has since increased to 22 schools. It has certainly been an unusual experience for the 1,000 children to be allowed by their parents to attend "school". Their little minds have gradually absorbed with interest the importance of learning and keeping themselves clean and neat. Sitting under a street lamp at night to study the alphabets and numbers has attracted other pavement children to gather around with open curiosity and interest and not a few have sought to enlist at the pavement schools.

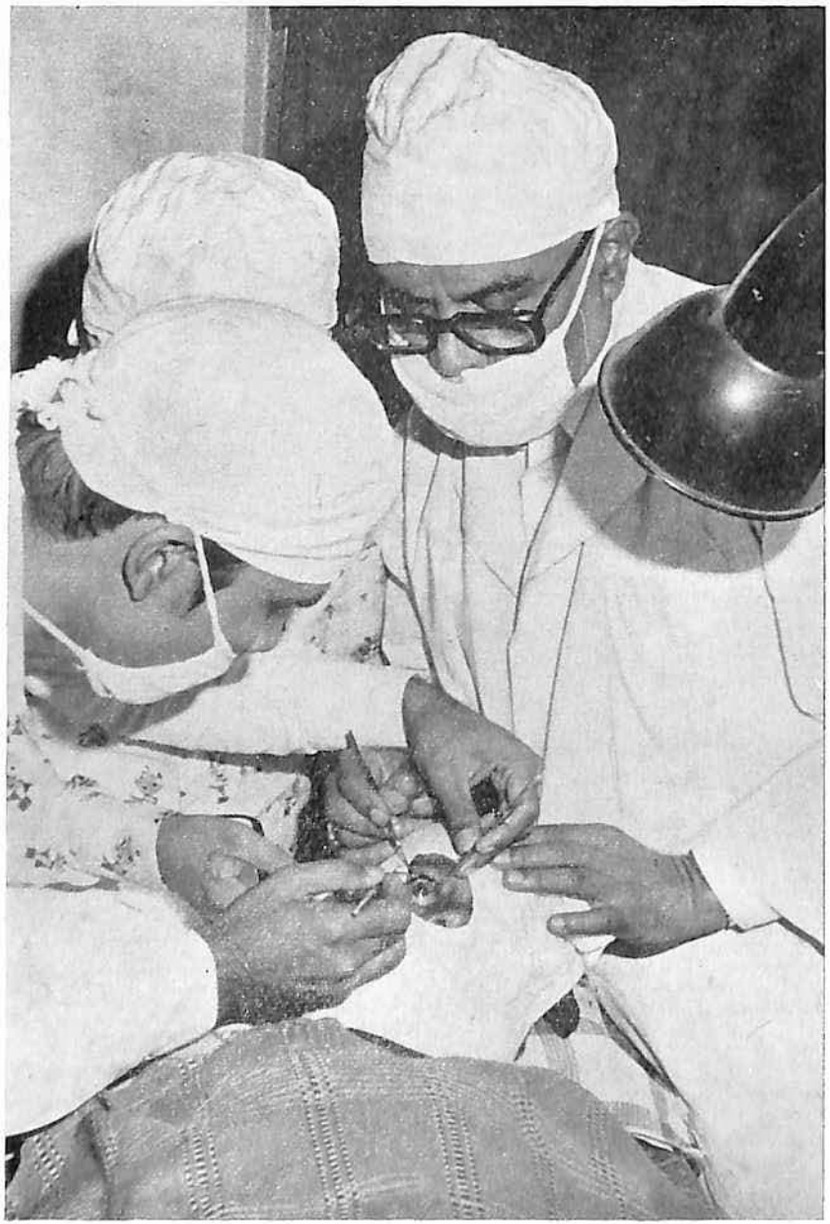
For the first time many are learning to spin and weave, sew and crochet. Their parents are convinced too that with education and training their children can do better in a competitive world than they themselves were able to do. The Self Employment Centres established with Sales Emporiums at the two Complexes of the LWS at Entally and Ultadanga provide earning opportunities for the trained young girls and boys to enable them to feed their families.

During 1979, 100 girls from a population of 600 pavement dwellers at Entally availed of training at the Vocational Training Centre (VTC) and 50 girls from a population of 300 pavement dwellers availed of training at the Garcha VTC. Similarly 73 boys were trained in block printing, weaving and carpentry at the Ultadanga VTC. These children who risked the possibility of ending up as juvenile delinquents are now making a vital contribution to the development process in the new orientation to their way of life. It is expected that the Self Employment Units established at centres will eventually enable 1,500 boys/girls covering a population of 10,000 to become self-reliant within a period of three years approximately, for it is in these centres that during 1979 the 33 trained girls and 27 boys produced beautiful batik, embroidered table linen, woodcraft, etc. which fetched a good price in the local market and a small quantity was also sold abroad.

In the Ultadanga Extension areas, 700 destitute ex-refugee artisan families have taken advantage of bank loans to run their trades as weavers, potters, cobblers and shop-owners. The LWS plays a catalystic role in helping these people obtain the loans and ensuring the repayments by the pavement dwellers to the banks.

TRAINING (1979)		
Name of Centre	Persons trained	Subjects Covered
Entally	100 girls	Batik work, weaving, tailoring, embroidery.
Ultadanga	73 boys	Block printing, Carpentry, Weaving.

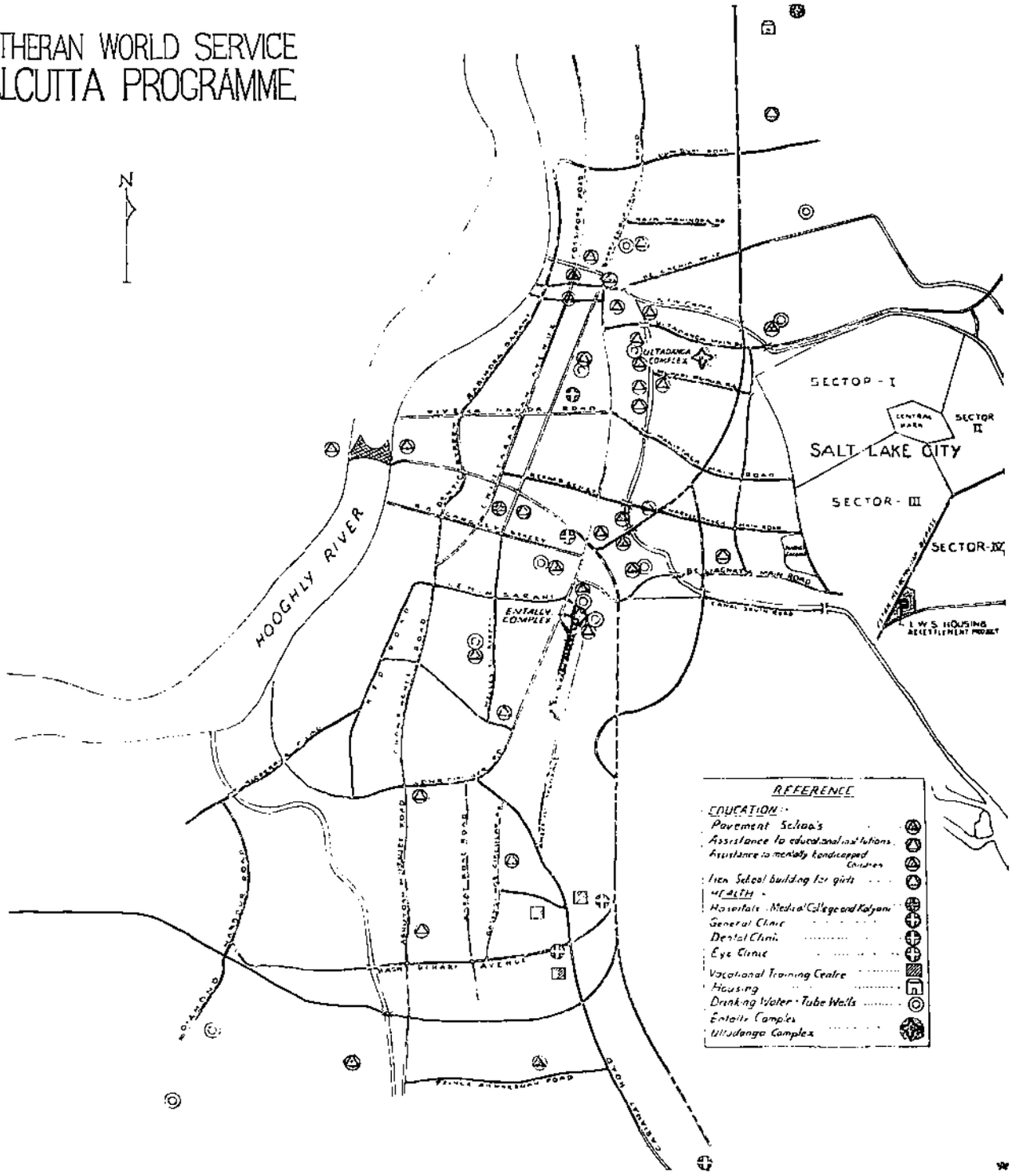
PRIMARY EDUCATION AT ENTALLY AND ULTADANGA	
Previous Years	1,000 students
1979	400 students
Total	1,400 students



The families of the pavement children who attend the schools have been frequent visitors to the Health Clinics attached to the Ultadanga and Entally Complexes. Under this influence, other slum and pavement dwellers living in the locality were encouraged to attend the Women & Children's Clinic and General Clinic at the Entally and Ultadanga centres respectively. About 40,136 persons attended the Mother & Child Health Programme and 1,000 eligible couples sought medical advice under the Family Welfare Programme. The pavement and slum dwellers are becoming increasingly aware of the importance of personal hygiene, sanitation, nutrition, clean drinking water, etc. to safeguard against infectious diseases.

The Eye Clinic opened by the LWS in Garia where a large concentration of refugees is to be found drew 19,021 poor and indigent patients and students who were treated for various eye ailments during 1979. Of these 52 cases were operated upon.

LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE
CALCUTTA PROGRAMME



EXTN. PROGRAMME (ULTADANGA AREA)

Families Covered		Area	Bank loan (Rs.)
Type	Number		
Non-weavers	136	Dakshindari	184,281
Weavers	22	,,	66,000
Non-weavers	34	Khudirampalli	31,512
Total	192		281,793

Loan given by Bank of Baroda (Multi-Service Agency) with LWS playing a catalyst role.

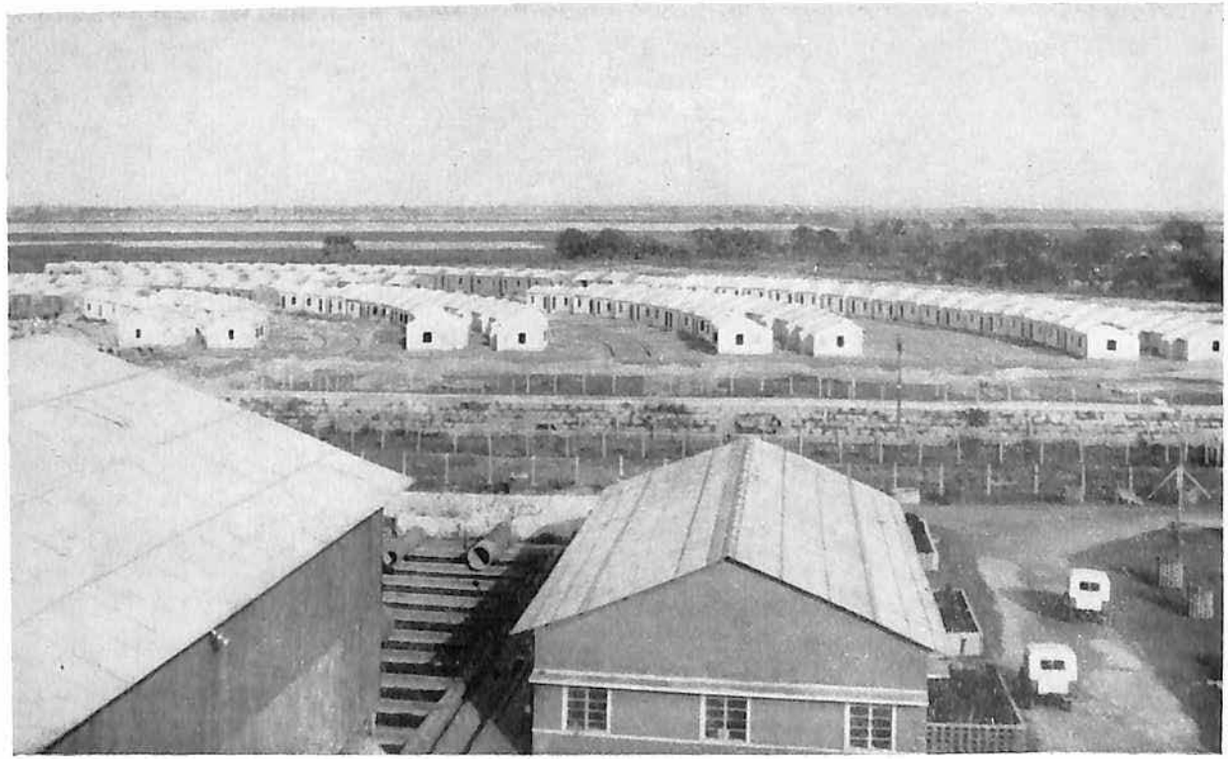
SALT LAKE HOUSING RESETTLEMENT	
Houses Constructed	People Assisted
434 with septic tanks and latrines	350 families rehoused so far
Participation	
LWS 60%	Government 40%

The LWS approached the Government of West Bengal to endorse a scheme whereby the pavement/ embankment dwellers of Calcutta could be rehabilitated on the city's outskirts, on the fringes of the Salt Lake Township, a satellite city of Calcutta, and in the Sundarbans.

The Government approved this scheme and allocated 30 acres of land in Sector IV of the Salt Lake City area. LWS with the full cooperation of the Government has taken up a resettlement programme in this area, to rehabilitate 750 families having a population of approximately 5,000. The first stage of resettlement of 500 families in Salt Lake was more or less completed in 1979. Settlement includes, housing, drinking water supply, a central school and community house, a medical health centre, paved roads and permanent sanitary facilities. Government contribution towards this programme is approximately 40 percent of the total expenditure.

The Colony people have already established their Committee and they themselves will take care of maintenance of their houses and tubewells and also infrastructure development assisted partly by the LWS and the Government.

. . . THE CALL OF THE OUTSKIRTS

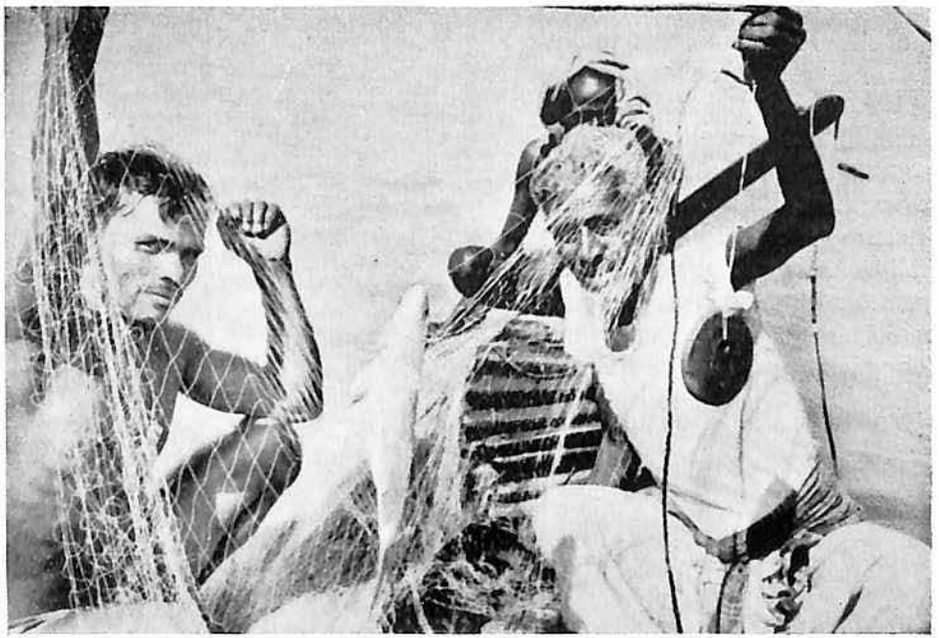


Resettlement of Pavement Dwellers

Salt Lake & Sundarbans

The Sundarbans of 24-Parganas District, which lies at the mouth of the River Hooghly, and Padma and Meghna estuaries, fans out into a delta span covering 28,080 sq. miles. It is composed of numerous densely forested islands interspersed by rivers. The region is faced with the flood menace as the rivers often change their course causing breaches in the embankments and submergence of land with saline water, reducing soil fertility.

Scheduled Castes and Tribes constitute 43.3% of the total population of two million distributed over 1,060 villages. The region suffers acutely from lack of drinking water, owing to intrusion of saline water. Outside the period of plantation and harvesting, the people live on fishing, especially during the slack season, agriculture and fishing forming the main occupations of the people.

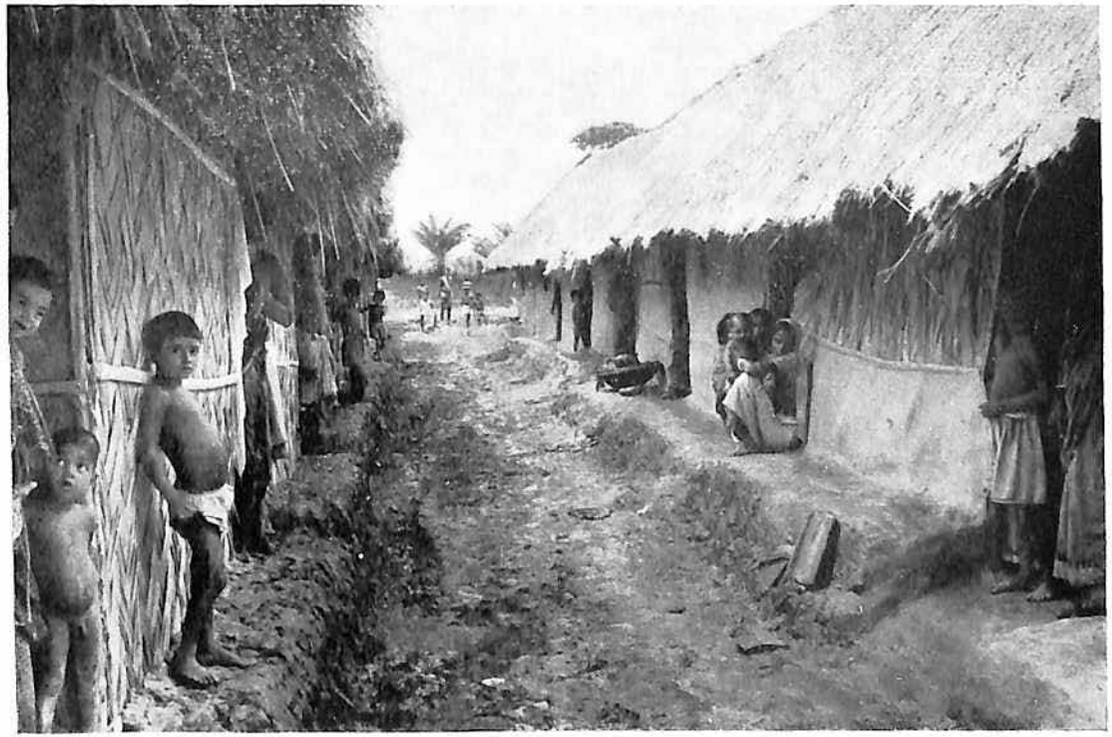


The first resettlement programme in the Sundarbans was initiated in the middle of the year and so far approximately 70 families have been moved there. Approximately 330 acres of land were earmarked for settlement. We have been intimated by the Government that more land will be allocated and we envisage that land will be available for resettlement of between 700-1000 families in the years to follow.

The 70 families are engaged in reclaiming the land to make it habitable for the other settlers as well who will follow. An embankment is being constructed to safeguard the land and the people. The settlers are earning their livelihood by food-for-work. In addition to this other subsidiary activities have been taken up such as weaving, bidi-making, bee-keeping, etc.

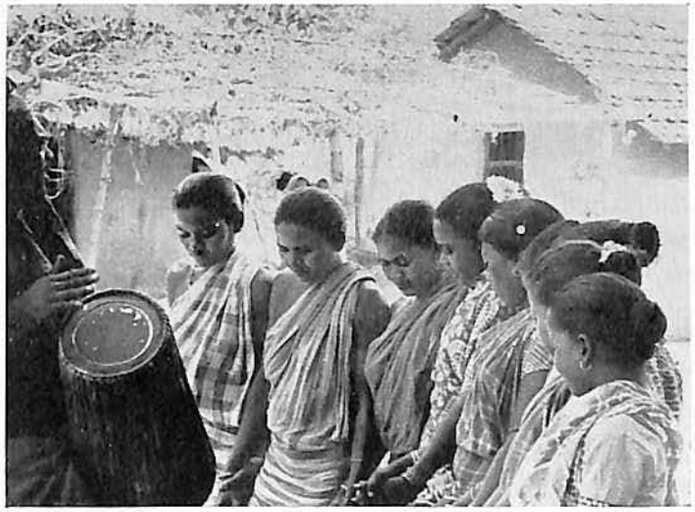
A Health Centre has been established in this first Colony and Adult Literacy classes have been initiated.

The provision of a cleaner environment to live in, a good village house, proper sanitation and amenities such as clean drinking water, medical and educational facilities, has placed the pavement dweller in an entirely new situation. He understands that new avenues are open to him for advancement and betterment of his situation and he will, no doubt, in time to come, be conditioned by his new environment as he takes his place as a contributor and a participant in the economic and social good of the community he lives and works with.



RANCHI

SANTAL PARGANAS



IN UNISON . . .

The tribals inhabiting the hilly and rocky areas of Ranchi District of Bihar have been trying to fight against poverty, exploitation and hunger for many generations. The LWS entered Khunti Sub-Division of Ranchi District in April 1976 by taking up a Rehabilitation and Development Programme among the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. The GELC (Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church) of more than 100 years standing in this region made available to LWS its centre in Sarnatoli (known as ASMA Farm) having about 33 acres of land to use as a base for LWS operations.

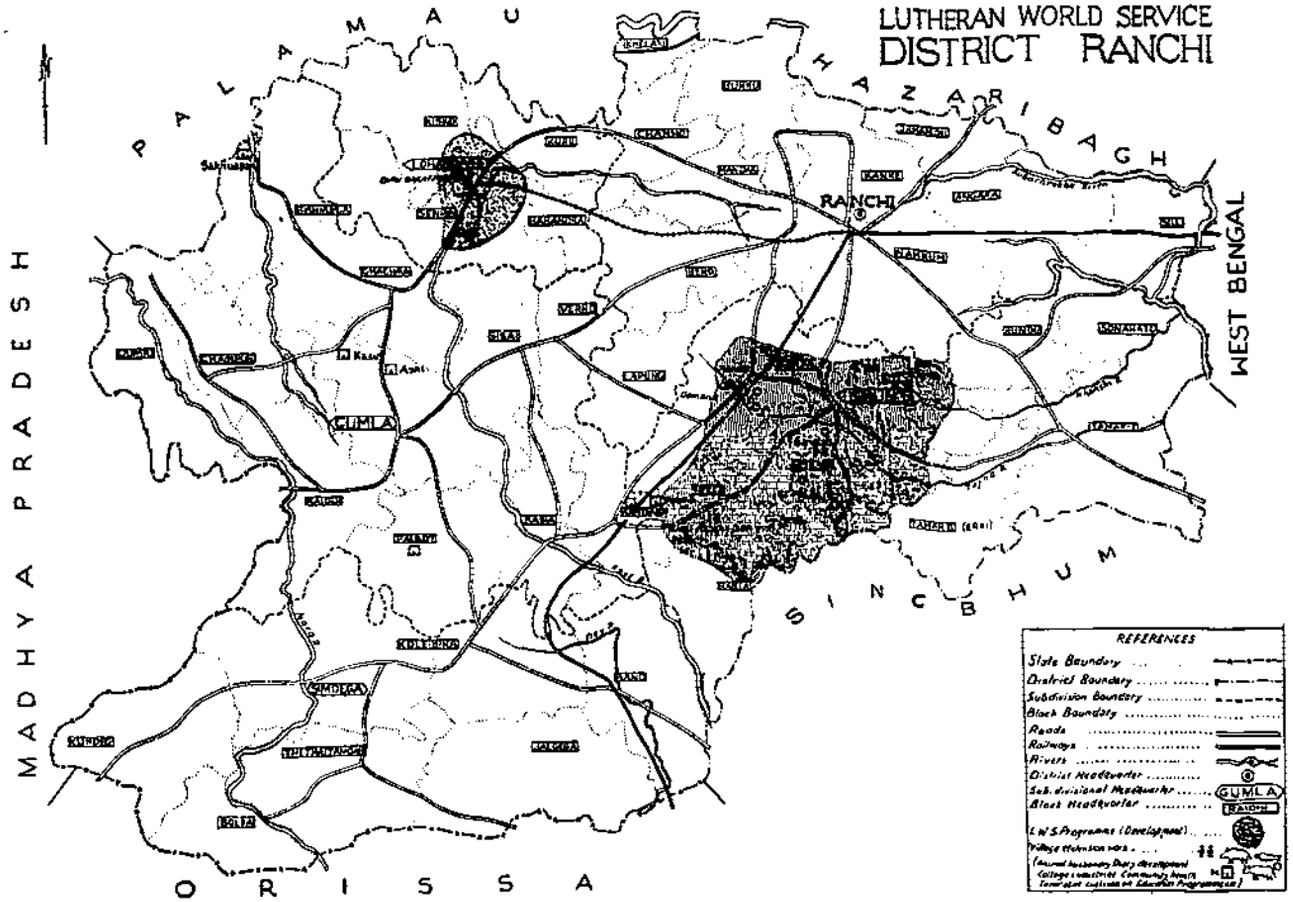
Initially the Integrated Rural Development Programme was taken up in eight villages neighbouring ASMA Farm. Subsequently, the number of villages taken up was increased. In the years following, the tribals showed an increased interest in improving their knowledge and skills with the new technologies placed at their disposal, realising that in this manner they could progress and become self-reliant.

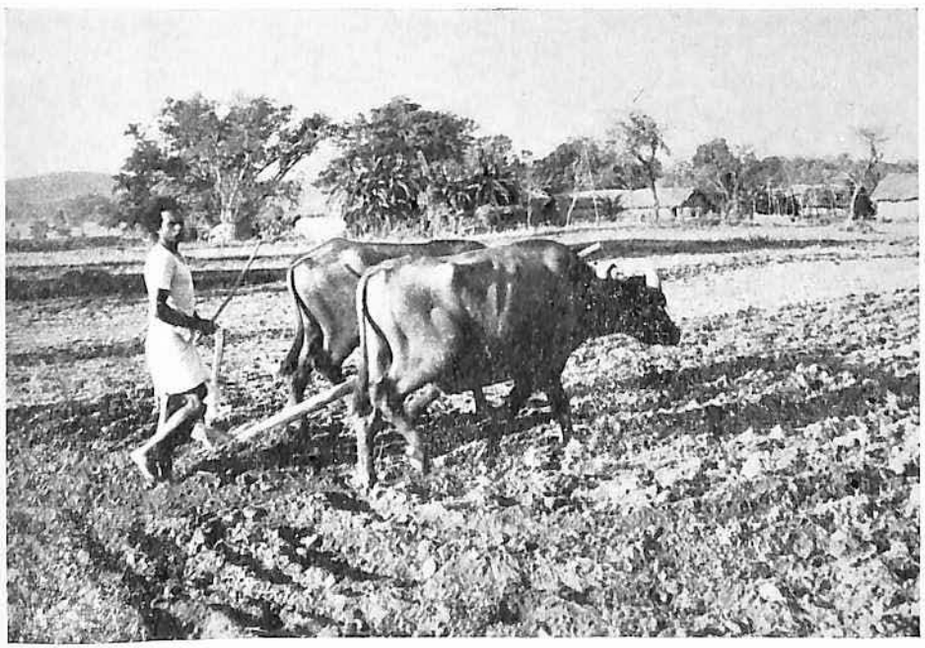
A cultural society called the "Horo Cultural Society" with the object of identifying, preserving and developing their age-old cultural heritage, including their ancient language, literature and fine arts was established. Hatinghore is a village at a distance of seventy miles from Sarnatoli centre in Khunti Sub-division, and situated to the south-west on the extreme borders of Ranchi District. Inspired and encouraged by whatever they had heard about the developmental activities in Khunti area, this village under the leadership of its fairly younger generation started campaigns to con-scientize the population towards self-improvement. With its own meagre resources, it has started setting up a demonstration-cum-training centre on the lines of ASMA Farm, organising itself into a Society. The people have plans to exploit the resources of the produce of the forest of the area and of water for irrigation available in their streams and rivers. The tribals are aware that crop protection against harmful insects is no less important than water for irrigation and fertilizers. The villagers have, therefore, been purchasing sprayers at subsidised costs. All the extension workers locally recruited have sought training in motivation and various courses on animal husbandry, farming, improved irrigation and cultivation, etc. Being tribals they are better able to identify the needs of the target population and provide the necessary guidance and direction on improving their situation.

Many farmers have taken up small-scale industries at the village level. A lac processing unit has been initiated towards the end of 1979 with the active cooperation of the Industries Department of the District of Ranchi; so also has a bone meal venture been taken up to provide fertilizer and cattle-cum-poultry feed. Many young men are seeking training in bicycle and motor bicycle repairs and as pump mechanics to enable them to have their own workshops as village entrepreneurs keeping pace with the industrial growth of Ranchi and the need for ancillary industries. Sixteen tribals have received training under a well experienced weaving master and have made considerable progress. The Government is helping these trained persons to set up handlooms of their own in their village homes. The local tribal designs are reproduced on woven napkins, tray-cloths, blankets, etc. and have a good market.

The monsoon during 1979 was a failure on the whole in Ranchi District. This resulted in damage to the Kharif crops. The Government had to declare large areas as drought areas. Owing to food scarcity in the villages, large number of people offered their services for work on the Buru Baratpur dam, the Government Forest Department having accorded its permission for the use of its land for this purpose to the LWS in September, 1979. Utmost importance was given to the completion of the Pakna Dam. However, it received a set back when a breach occurred in the embankment after a heavy freak rain in September. Within a week, however, most of the repair work was completed. The adjoining plots of uneven land from where earth was taken for the embankment were levelled to form plots for cultivation.

Villagers set aside about a hectare of their cultivable land to serve as demonstration farms and training centres. The villagers decided to repay the total cost of fertilisers and seeds they received for kharif, in kind. However, owing to crop failure they decided to raise a general village development fund in Buru Baratpur village out of wages received by working on the dam.





Village societies have decided to collect a portion of the off-spring of cows, goats and pigs reared by them for distribution among the community. Many tribal farmers who had purchased animals on loans have repaid their loans to the banks and are receiving additional cattle. Common cow sheds are being used by the villagers. Villagers have taken 200 piglets from the LWS pig breeding unit established at Sarnatoli on the understanding that the offspring will be redistributed to other villagers.

AGRICULTURE

	Acreage brought under cultivation	Families Assisted
Previous Years	1200	1,865
1979	256	2,547

Participation (1979)

LWS	Taret Group
75%	25%

TANKS/BUNDHS

Number Constructed		People Covered
Previous Years	3	2,100
1979	4	400

Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
95%	10%

RING WELLS

Number Constructed		People Covered
Previous Years	29	2,900
1979	5	500

Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
95%	10%

COTTAGE & SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

Type	Families Covered
Lac Cultivation	74
Bee Keeping	17
Black Smithy	2
Cycle Repairing Shop	1
Petty Business	6
Tailoring	55
Weaving	18
Tasar Culture	1,166
Total	1,339

EDUCATION

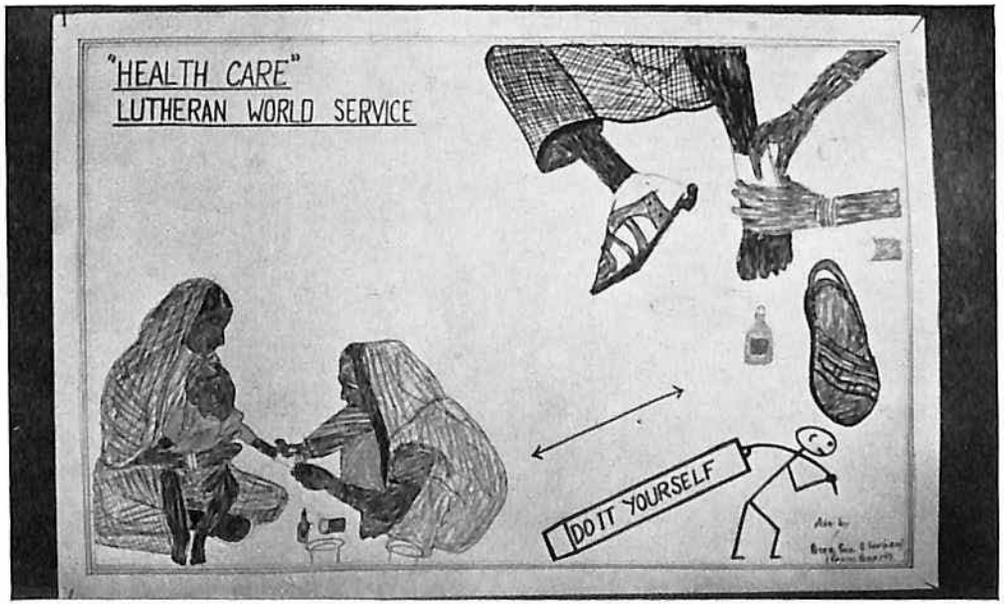
Schools Constructed		Students Covered
Previous Years	17	3,400
1979	5	1,000

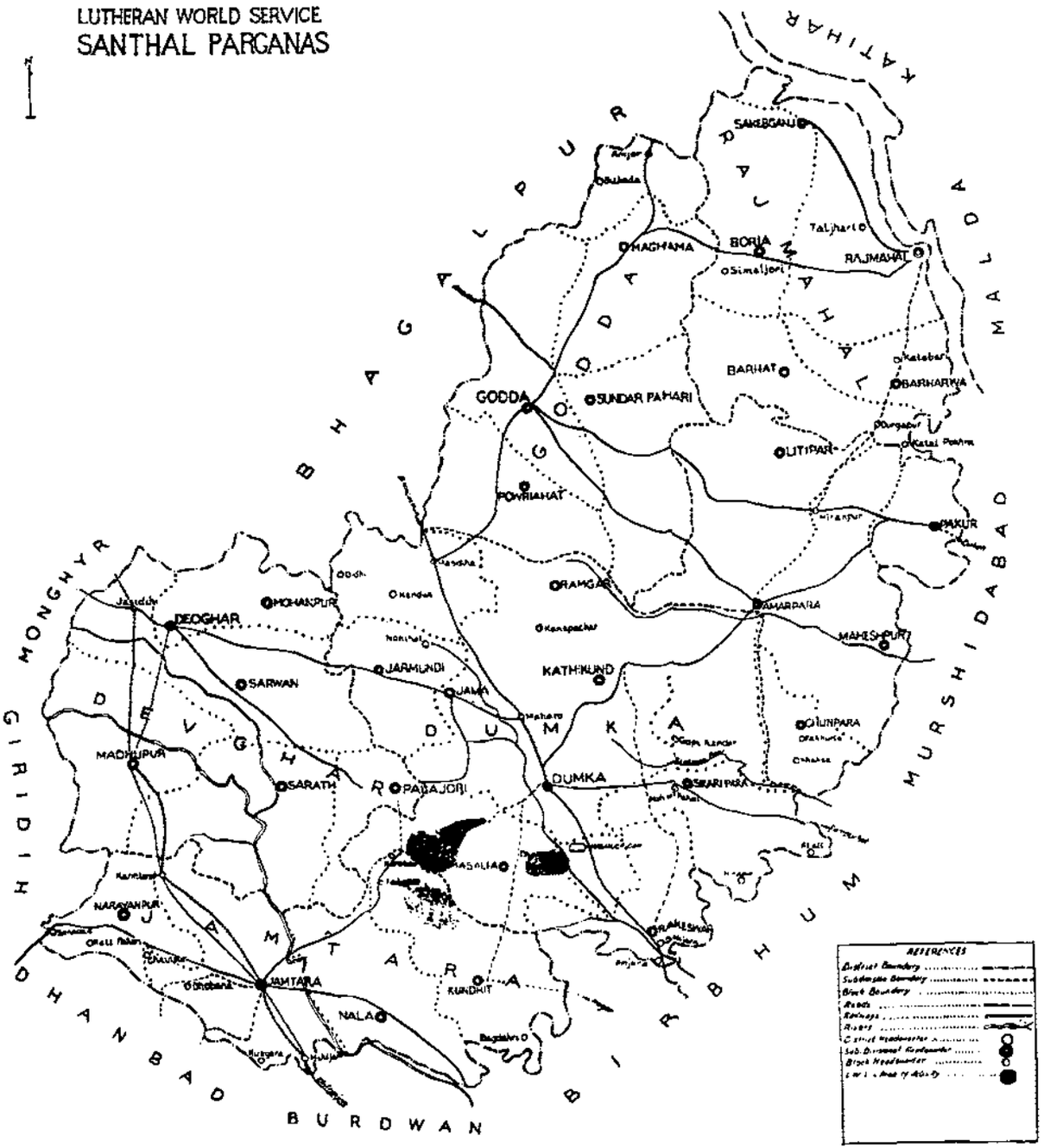
Participation (1979)

LWS	Target Group
90%	10%

LIVE STOCK

Type	Quantity	Families Covered	Participation		
			L W S	Bank Loan	Government
Cows	13	13	10%	20%	70%
Cows	42	42	50%	50%	—
Goats	182	85	100%	First two offsprings for redistribution	
Fowls	154 Eggs (for hatching)	22	100%	—	—
Pigs	74	29	100%	—	—





SANTHAL PARGANAS

The Agricultural Integrated Development Programme (A.I.D.) of the LWS in Santhal Parganas whioh started in 1976 is related to the Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church (NELC). Santhal Parganas lies in the tribal belt south east of Bihar State. The topography is undulating and characterised by acidic soil conditions, permitting the growth of poor quality millet and little paddy in low lying areas, covering 20 per cent of the total land. The area is drought prone and only in specific pockets people are able to procure ground surface water by digging tanks and wells. The programme covers 3,000 tribal and poor caste families of the Kundahit and Massalia Blocks. They used very primitive methods of cultivation, resulting in low-productivity. Many who had mortgaged their land to money-lenders lost their property and were suppressed and harassed as bonded labourers. Since their living was dependent on seasonal work they normally suffered grave hardships during the lean season. However, the tribals, Mahali and other scheduled castes have taken advantage of the AID programme by seeking training at the Demonstration-cum-Seed Production Farm in agriculture, water management gardening, animal husbandry and fisheries.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION	
Trainees in Agriculture Extension	50
Adult Literacy Centres	117

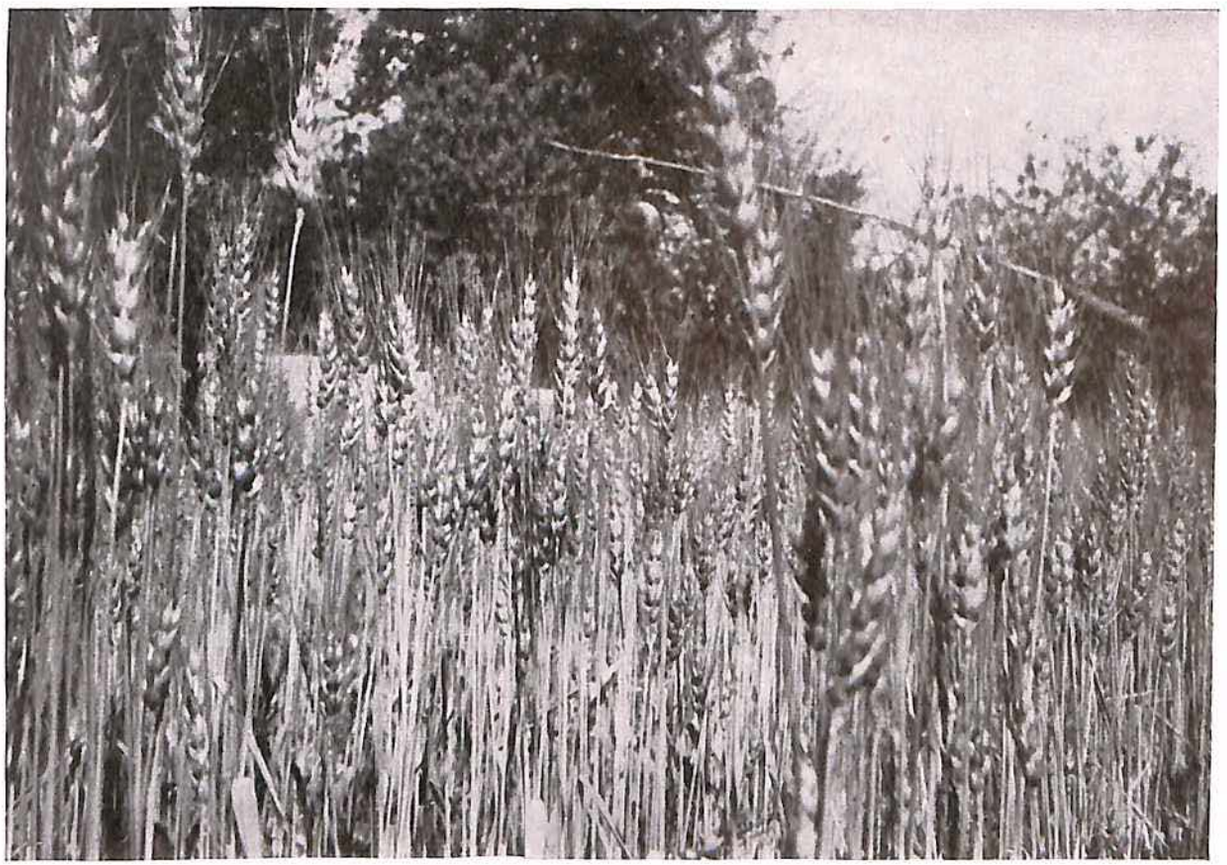
AGRICULTURE (1979)
261 Acres brought under cultivation
102 Acres brought under irrigation
21 Villages Covered
2,500 People Covered

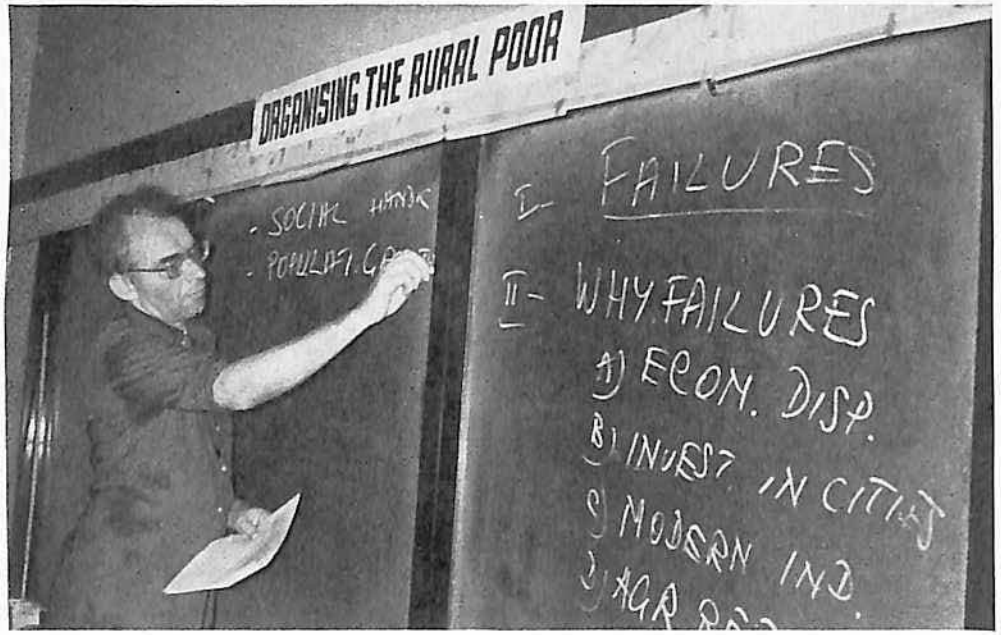
RING WELLS/TANKS		
Number Constructed		People Covered
Previous Years	16	2,200
1979	36	3,800

Material Participation	
LWS	Target Group
70%	30%

The people have seen the results of improved methods of cultivation and soil conservation demonstrated at the Extension Centre and are encouraged by their own experiments in growing onions, potatoes, cauliflower, cabbage, chillies, tomatoes, brinjal, cereals and pulses, etc. They sell the surplus of their produce in the villages after taking care of their own consumption. They have also successfully grown fruit trees such as Papaya. They are learning crop control and protection and the advantages of using fertilizers. They contribute labour and material for construction of wells, tanks and roads. With more water they are able to cultivate both upland, lowland areas and summer paddy. In addition they have preserved better quality seeds. During the next monsoon they expect to grow maize and groundnut.

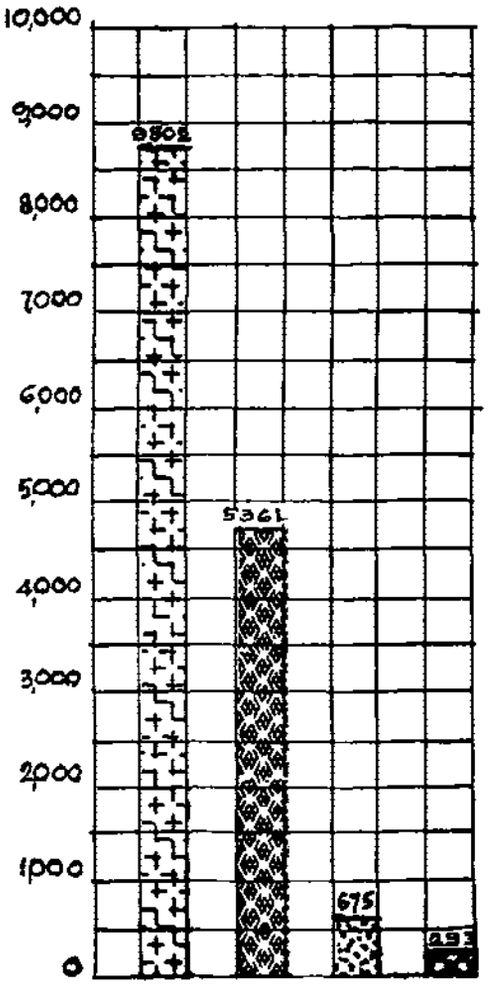
By the united efforts of the farmers, Church representatives and the LWS and the cooperation of the Government the projects in the villages have moved forward and made significant progress. It is hoped that this would be further strengthened to aid rural development.





SEMINARS • TRAINING COURSES • WORKSHOPS

ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMME



Programme Areas	COMMUNITY HEALTH WORK			
	Immunization, (Vaccination DPT & TT)	Nutritional supplements (tablets and vitamins)	Health Education (group activities etc.)	Home Visits (families covered)
AJODHYA HILLS	1,127	1,679	471	966
JANGAL MAHAL	645	7,620	32	198
BORJUMLA	1,076	9,981	1,484	4,224
JAMADARBOSH	412	1,203	79	253
TOTAL	3,260	20,483	2,066	5,641

OTHER AREAS

TUBEWELLS		
Tubewells Sunk		Population Covered
Previous years	425	77,615
1979	24	2,400

Participation	
LWS 90%	Target Group 10%

P **LANNING :** to *formulate* different types of *planning* both short and long term, keeping in view the criteria of the LWF/WS.

R **ESEARCH :** to *assist* the LWS personnel in undertaking small *indepth studies* including action research so as to understand more about the larger social systems.

E **VALUATION :** to undertake *internal evaluation* of ongoing development programmes of the LWS.

M **ONITORING :** to *improve* the existing *monitoring system* of the LWS programme.

Three and a half years after commencement of the first field programme, an Evaluation of the LWS India programme took place in April 1978. One of the specific recommendations was that the LWS should build up a small PREM (Planning, Research, Evaluation and Monitoring) unit to assist each of the field projects in building up a capacity to plan their own programme, feed back information to correct defects as one goes along and evaluates or monitors progress.

This recommendation was accepted by the LWF/WS., Geneva. Accordingly on May 28, 1979 the PREM Cell was officially constituted with an initial representation of four external members. Since then one more external member has been added to this. The PREM Cell is considered as an external body functioning in an advisory capacity to the LWS management.

Several Evaluations have since been conducted and every effort is made to follow up and implement recommendations wherever and to the extent possible. These Evaluations have proved of immense benefit to the LWS India.

LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE
INDIA

1979 STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES IN DOLLARS OF ALL LWS - DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Name of Project		US DOLLARS
PROGRAMME ADMINISTRATION	...	100,292
HOUSING RESETTLEMENT	...	707,617
WATER RESOURCES	...	440,788
BURDWAN	...	241,756
PURULIA	...	199,739
CALCUTTA	...	563,681
NORTH BENGAL	...	325,749
MURSHIDABAD	...	163,811
RANCHI	...	261,086
SANTHAL PARGANAS	...	279,660
ADULT LITERACY	...	59,718
MEDICAL	...	17,775
EMERGENCY PROVISION	...	126,903
DISTRIBUTION OF DONATED COMMODITIES	...	46,000
SUNDERBANS	...	351,527
VETERINARY	...	40,000
BIHAR FLOOD EMERGENCY	...	16,633
NORWEGIAN WHEAT	...	113,037
TOTAL ...	...	US$ 4,066,772

ARC:mn

PREM CELL EXTERNAL MEMBERS

Dr. B. N. Mukherjee
Director of Research
Council For Social Development
New Delhi.

Dr. Jatin De
Senior Research Fellow
Council For Social Development,
New Delhi.

Mr. S. K. Chakraborty, IAS (Retd.)
Adviser
Rural Development Consortium
Calcutta.

Dr. D. C. Sarkar,
Hony. Sericulture Adviser
Calcutta.

Dr. Prodipto Roy
Visiting Professor
Centre for Economic Development & Administration
Tribhuvan University
Kathmandu, Nepal.

Mr. S. J. Nathan,
Programme Secretary
LWS/India — Member Secretary

Dr. Helen Gideon
Consultant and Adviser to the Medical Programme.

THE EXECUTIVE

Main Office :

Director	—	Dr. Olav Hodne
Deputy Director	—	V. S. C. Bonarjee
Finance Administrator	—	Leif Thybell (till April 1979)
Programme Secretary	—	S. J. Nathan

Programme/Project Offices (Development)

Adult Literacy	—	P. C. Sarkar, Chief Organiser.
Birbhum	—	S. J. Nathan, Field Administrator.
Burdwan/Sundarbans	—	J. Simon, Field Administrator.
Calcutta	—	N. K. Saha, Field Administrator.
Community Health Work	—	Dr. D. P. Sen, Community Health Organiser.
Medical Programme	—	Dr. K. S. Ray, Medical Administrator.
Murshidabad/Nadia	—	V. S. C. Bonarjee, Field Administrator.
North Bengal	—	S. C. Roy, Field Administrator.
Purulia	—	P. K. Ghosh, Field Administrator
Ranchi	—	S. A. B. D. Hans, Field Administrator.
Seminar Supervision	—	T. K. Ray, Seminar Organiser.
Technical Matters	—	K. Roy, Technical Adviser.
Water Resources Project	—	D. Roychoudhury, WRP Coordinator.

Emergency & Rehabilitation Unit :

Emergency Officer	—	P. C. Joseph.
Coordinating Officer	—	P. C. Kennel.
Finance Adviser	—	E. Nielsen.

NOTE : Emergency activities are covered under a separate report.

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